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*The Lively Effigies of Thein mingus y^e present
Emperour of the Western Tartars, who hath
Lately ouerrun and Possesst him selfe allmost
of the whole Empire of China*

BELLUM TARTARICUM,

OR THE

CONQUEST

OF

The Great and most renowned Empire of

CHINA,

By the Invasion of the TARTARS,
who in these last seven years, have
wholly subdued that vast Empire.

Together with a Map of the Provinces,
and chief Cities of the Countries, for
the better understanding of the Story.

Written Originally in *L A T I N E* by
Martin Martinius, present in the Coun-
try at most of the passages herein
related, and now faithfully Tran-
slated into English.

L O N D O N,

Printed for *John Crook*, and are to be
Sold at his Shop at the Sign of the Ship
in *St. Paul's Church-yard*. 1654.





TO THE
READER.



Whereas in the course of this insuing History there occurs frequent mention of the chief Provinces and Cities in China; which have either been assaulted and defended, subdued or destroyed, by the severall Armées, aswell from North to South, as from East to West; least the pleasure and delight of this History, should be any way diminished by the frequent re-encounter of harsh and

To the Reader.

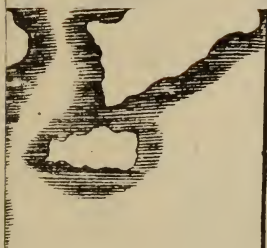
barbarous names of Countries, and Towns unknown to the European Reader, whilst his attention follows the victorious Army. I thought it good to prefix a little Geographical table of the Countries and chief Cities, which might serve as a guide to conduct the eye of the understanding, in the pursuit of the mentioned victories. I confess it is not so exact as the rigour of Geography exacts, but yet it is such an one, as was drawn by the hands of their learned Philosophers, and may well give us a sufficient notion of all the places mentioned.

*As for more exquisit, and rare Maps both universal and particular, as well of the Countries, as of the Cities, and of all the varieties they contain, together with the exact knowledge of their Longitudes and Latitudes, and of
all*

To the Reader.

all that does belong either to Astronomy or Geography in relation to them; with what may be expected from Natural or Humane History, I reserve all these rarities and curiosities to my Atlas of China which I am composing; taken from their own antient records ever since the time of Noah; all which I have with incredible pains, and industry both gathered up together, and transported with me to Europe. I will not therefore for the present deflower that worth of its greatest beauty, by an unseasonable exposition of it to the Readers view; but expect till it grow to that perfection, as I hope will ravish the insatiable appetits of this our curious Age.

BELLUM



Oriens

ixan



OVINCLARVM

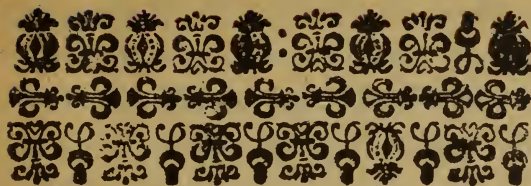
RII SINICE

DC.IIV.









BELLUM TARTARICUM,

OR

*The History of the Warrs of the
Tartars in China &c.*

THE most antient Nation of *Tartars* in *Asia*, which was the Parent of many Nations, had been an Enemy of the Empire of *China* above Four Thousand years: during which time, as they had many sharp Warrs with those of *China*, in which they were sometimes conquered, so also more often they remained Conquerers of the Provinces of that Nation.

The Tartars were antient Enemies to China.

Who are
the *Tar-*
tars.

I call that Nation *Tartars*, which inhabiting the Northern parts, behind that famous Wall which stretching out above 300. *German* Leagues from East to West, hath ever served for a Rampart to hinder their irruptions into the said Empire.

This Country the *Chineses* having a defect of the letter R. antiently called *Tata*: comprehending under this name as well the Oriental *Tartars*, hitherto unknown to us in *Europe*, as the Occidental, containing the Provinces, *Sumahania*, *Tanyu*, *Niuche*, *Niulhan*, and the like, from the lesser *Tartary*, and Kingdom of *Cascor*, to the Oriental Sea above *Fapony*, where they are separated by the Streight of *Anian*, from *Oviora* in *America*; if yet it be a Streight and not a Continent,

But

But it is not my intention to write all the Warrs which have passed betwixt them; bnt only of such as have happned in our memory, and in my presence; All the rest shall appear at large in my Abridgement of the History of *China*. And that we may proceed with more Order, it will be necessary to reflect, how and from whence those Troubles had their begining.

It is therefore first to be known, that the antient Western *Tartars* (of whom *Paulus Venetus*, and *Ayton* make mention under the names of *Cataye* and *Maningin*) waged war against *China* after they had subdued almost all *Asia* to their Power; and this before the times of great *Tamberlain*, who never reigned in *China* as some have falsly

The *Tartars* conquered *China* heretofore.

Tamberlain never tooke *China*.

writ; for he florished about the year M C C C C V I; in which time *Taichangus*, Emperour of *China*, and the second of the *Tai-mingian* Family (the *Tartars* being before beaten out of his Kingdome) governed peaceably all the Provinces included within the compass of that Vaste Wall which before I mentioned.

But the War which *Paulus Venetus* toucheth, betwixt the *Chineses* and *Tartars* began in the year M C C C V I. as their History and Chronology testify, which lasting 77. years, at last in the year M C C L X X V I I I. having totally conquered all that potent Empire, they extinguished the Imperial Family of the *Sungas*, and erected a new Regal Family, which they called *Fuena*; of which *Tartarian*

rian Race nine Emperors by descent, governed in the Kingdom of *China* for the space of LXX years in Peace and Quietness; and about the end of that War, came *Paulus Venetus* into *China* with the *Tartars*, as appeareth by his Writings.

The *Tartars* Emperours of *China*.

In this tract of time, the *Tartars* forgetting their antient Vigour of Mind and warlike Spirits, which the pleasures and delights of that Country had quailed and tamed, being also weakened by so long a Peace, became of a sweeter temper, and received a deep Tincture of the Nature and Disposition of the Natives of *China*.

Whereupon a contemptible person (who was servant to one of those deputed to offer Sacrifice to their Idolls) called *Hugh*, presumed to rebell against them.

This man commiserating the condition of his enslaved Country, and also touched with the ambition of Reigning, first acted the part of a Thief, or High-way man ; and being of a Generous Nature, bold , and as quick at hand as in wit ; wanted neither Courage, nor Art, nor Companions , nor Fortune , to gather such a multitude as in short time made up the vast body of an Army ; whereupon deposing the person of a Thief , he became a General, and with a bold attempt presumed to set upon the *Tartars* , and having waged many Wars against them, obtained many singular Victories ; so as in the year 1368. he finally drove them out of the Kingdom of *China*, receiving for so memorable an action, the whole Empire or *China* as a worthy reward of his Heroical Actions.

It was he first erected the Imperial Family of the *Taiminges*, and being he was the first Emperour of that Race, stiled himself by the name of *Hunguus*; which signifies as much as, *The famous Warriour*.

After such an illustrious Action, it was no wonder if all the Provinces submitted to him, both as to one that was a Native of their Country, and also because they looked on him as a man who had redeemed them from Thralldome: for it is the Nature of the people of *China* to love and esteem their own, as much as they hate and vilify Strangers.

Wherefore he first placed his Court at *Nanking* neer to the bank of that great River of *Kiang*, which the *Chineses*, in respect of the huge Mountains of
water

water which it discharges into the Ocean, call the *Son of the Sea*: And having speedily ordered, and established that Empire, fearing no Insurrections from these new redeemed Creatures, he was not contented to have chased the *Tartars* out of *China*, but he made an irruption into *Tartary* it self, and so followed the point of his Victory, as that he routed them several times, wasted all their Territories, and finally brought the Oriental *Tartars* to such streights, as he forced them to lay down their Arms, to pay Tribute, and even begge an Ignominious Peace. This Storm of War fell chiefly on the *Tartars* of the Province of *Niuche*, whither the *Tartars* of *China* being expelled were retired.

And those *Tartars* every year,
either

either as Subjects or Friends, came into *China* by the Province of *Leaotung* to traffick with the Inhabitants; For, being brought to poverty and misery, they thought no more of making war against *China*. The Merchandise they brought were several, as the root cal'd *Ginseng*, so much esteemed amongst the *Chineses*, and all sorts of pretious skins, as those of *Castor*, *Martais* & *Zibellens*; and also Horse-hair, of which the *Chineses* make their Nets, and the men, though madly, use it in tying up their hair, as the handsomest dress they can appear in. But those *Tartars* multiplyed so fast, as they grew quickly into seven Governments which they called *Hordes*, as much as to say into seven Lordships, and these fighting one against another, at length about
the

the year of Christ MDL. came to erect a Kingdom, which they called the Kingdome of *Niuche*.

Thus stood *China* in relation to the Eastern *Tartars*; but to the Western *Tartars* they payed Tribute masked under the Title of Presents, that they might desist from War;

For the *Chineses* esteem it very unhanfom to make war against any, if by any other means their Country can be conserved in Peace and quietness, being taught this by their Philosophers.

A great Garrison upon the Wall against the *Tartars*.

But in the mean time, being over jealous of the Enemies to their antient riches, they never left that great Wall, which extends from East to West, without a Million of *Sorelgers* to guard it.

Therefore this Kingdom of
China

China being thus established in the *Taimingian* Family, enjoyed a constant Peace and quietness for CCL. years, and whilst the seven Lords or Governors made Civil wars, that renowned Emperour of *China*, known by the name of *Vanley* being the thirteenth Emperour of *Taiminges* Family, governed happily the Kingdom of *China* from the year 1573. to the year 1620. with as much Prudence as Justice and Equity.

A long
Peace in
China.

But in this time the *Tartars* of *Niuche* had so multiplied and spread themselves, as that being incorporated into a Kingdome, they became daily more formidable to *China*: And therefore the Governors of the bordering Countries, consulted privately amongst themselves how they might curb and restrain these people

The *Tar-*
tars think
of inva-
ding *Chi-*
na.

people within their limits : For their Governors have so much Power and Authority , that although they live as Slaves to their Prince , yet when there is question of a Common and publick good, they govern absolutely and uncontroulably; unless by some higher Powers their Orders be restrained.

The first
cause of
the Tartar
war.

First therefore the Prefects or Governors, did abuse the Merchant's *Tartars* of *Ninche* when they came into *Leaotung*, which is a Province confines next to them.

The second
cause,

Then again when the King of *Ninche* would have married his Daughter to another King of the *Tartars*, they hindred this marriage by representing some pretended reasons of State.

The third
ause,

And finally when the King of *Ninche* suspected nothing from them

them he conceived his friends ,
they took him by deceit, and killed him perfidiously.

Wherefore to revenge these injuries, the Kings Son gathered a strong Army, & taking his time, found means to get over the great Wall I mentioned; and the great River being frozen, he presently set upon the great City *Kaiyuen*, (or as others call it *Taxun*) which lies upon the Confines of *Tartary*, which he took in the year MDCXVI.

The first
irruption
of the *Tar-*
tars into
China.

From this City he writ a Letter in *Tartarian* Characters to the Emperour of *China*, which though writ in Barbarian Characters, yet contained nothing barbarous. By this Letter which he sent by one of their *Indian* Priests (whom they call *Lama*) in a very humble and submissive manner he declared to him, that
he

The *Tar-*
tars Pro-
testation
against
China.

he had invaded his Country to revenge the injuries he had received from the Governors of the neighbouring Provinces. But yet that he was ready to restore the City he had taken, and depose his Arms, if his Complaints might be heard, and satisfaction given him. The Emperour of *China*, called *Vanley*, having received this Letter, though otherwaies of an eminent wisdom, and of as great experience, yet being now broken with Age, in this business seems to have proceeded with less Prudence than that which accompanied the former Actions of his life; For, thinking it not to be a business of that moment as it deserved to be treated before him in his own Court, he remitted the business to the chief Governors and Commanders. And these

these men puff'd up with their usual pride, thought it not fit so much as to give an answer to the *Barbarian* King, but resent-ed it very highly that any durst be so bold as to complain to the Emperor of any injury receiv'd.

The *Tartarian* King, seeing they vouchsafed no answer to his just Demands turning his anger into rage, vowed to celebrate his Fathers Funerals with the lives of two hundred Thousand of the Inhabitants of *China*. For it is the custom of the *Tartars* when any man of quality dyeth, to cast into that fire which consumes the dead Corps, as many Servants, Women, and Horses, with Bows and Arrows, as may be fit to attend and serve them in the next life: Though now since they conquered *China*, they have left off this barbarous custome, being

The barbarous and superstitious Vow of the *Tartarian* King

The chiefe
City of Le-
aoyang be-
sieged and
taken.

A Strata-
gem a-
gainst mus-
quers.

ing reprehended and corrected for it by the *Chineses* themselves. After this superstitious Vow, advancing his revenging Arms, he besieged *Leaotung* (which was the chief City of the Province of *Leaoyang*) with 50000 men. But the City was defended by exceeding many men, who generally were all armed with musquets: The *Tartars* had nothing but their Scymetars, with Bows and Arrows, which they discharge with strange dexterity & Art. But because they chiefly feared the musquet bullets, they resolved by a Stratagem to make that unknown Instrument less hurtfull to them than their Enemies did imagin. For the *Tartarian* King commanded such as made the first onset, to carry a thick hard board for their Shield, which was as good to them as a wooden

wooden Wall; these men were
 seconded by other Companies
 who carried Ladders to climb up
 the Walls; and the Horse came
 up in the Rear. In this manner
 he set upon the City in four
 quarters, and received the dis-
 charge of their Musquets against
 his Wooden wall; Then in a mo-
 ment the scaling-ladders being
 applied, before they could charge
 again, they were upon the Walls
 and entered the City; for such is
 the quickness and nimbleness of
 the *Tartars* (in which they excel
 all Nations, and in which also
 they place their chief art) that in
 a trice, they either prevail in
 their Designs, or retire: and the
 little skill the *Chineses* had in the
 use of Musquets, was no small
 hinderance to the War. For the
Tartars quickness and nimbleness
 not giving them time to charge
 C again

again, being astonished with the suddain inundation of armed men, they presently fled which way soever they could; but being pursued by the swift *Tartarian* Horse most of them perished in the taking of this great City. This City being taken, the *Tartar* like a Torrent over-run many others of less note, but amongst others, he took that noble Cny *Evamgning*, and over-running most speedily the whole Country of *Leao-tung*, he entred the Province of *Pekin*, and coming within seven Leagues of the very Imperial City, He durst not advance, fearing the Enemy might compass or surround him, because he heard that a world of men came in to help their distressed Prince. But the *Tartar* struck such a terrour into the hearts of all the Countries he had passed, as both Soldier

Many other Cities taken.

dier and Citizen leaving their Houses left the empty walls to the *Tartarians* possession, knowing the *Tartar* to have that custom and practice to destroy and put all to fire and sword that did resist, and only pillage the Cities that submitted, leaving the Citizens alive, and under a milder Government. By which means having collected a world of Riches he returned to *Leaotung* victorious. And because his Southsayers had perswaded him that the standing of the old Walls were unfortunate, he beat them down, and compassed them about with new, fortifying them with new Munitions, and there proclaimed himself Emperour of *China*: For although as yet he had taken nothing of *China*, but only the skirts of the Eastern Country of

How the
Tartars used their
conquered
Towns

The *Tartar* calls
himself
Emperour
of *China*,
An. 1618.

C 2 the

the Province of *Leaotung*, yet in his hopes and aspiring thoughts he had devoured the whole Kingdom : wherefore he was called in the *China* language *Theien-mingus* in the third year of his Reign, which was in that of one thousand six hundred and eighteen.

In this year some in authority about the Emperour *Vanley*, demanded the banishment of the Priests, who did then preach the Christian Religion to that Nation ; But the Emperour (who in his heart loved Christianity, and those particularly that first planted that Religion amongst them) gave no ear for a long while to their Demands ; But at length overcome by the importunity of a chief Commander, who had ever been a sore Enemy to Christian Religion, and was called
Xinchio,

Xinchio, it was ordeined and proclaimed that all those *Fathers* that did propagate Christian Religion should be banished the Kingdom. Upon which some of them were secretly eoncealed in several Provinces by some Christian Governours, others being taken were cartied in great Cages to *Macao*, where being shut up day and night, suffered extremely, whilst others also being whipt out of the Country, rejoyced to suffer somthing for his sake whose name they bore; and that which added more affliction to all these miseries, was the Emperour *Vanley's* Prohibition to all his to profess Christian Religion. But upon this occasion the Christians of *China* (who from the horrid wildernes of Infidelity, had been brought to the pleasant Pastures

God punished *China* for their persecuti-on of Christians,

of Christianity) gave illustrious examples of their Faith & Constancy; but the longer Narration of this glorious persecution is reserved for another place. I only touch it here, to admire the Divine Providence of God, who raised so sharp War against *China*, when they neglected Christian Peace; and permitted at the same time, these *Tartars* to take so deep a root in this Empire of *China*, as afterward grew to that height, as both to extirpate the Royal Family of the *Taiminges*, together with the Kingdom, at the very same time they went about utterly to destroy all Christianity. But it happened in this, as ordinarily it doth; for by this very persecution, Christian Religion grew to that height and greatness, that the Church glories to behold, and unless God vouchsafe

safe to lend a potent helping hand, the vast Kingdome of *China* is utterly overthrown.

In the mean time the *Chineses* were very solicitous to expell this Enemy from the bowells of their Country, and first they selected very chief and eminent men for Commanders and Governours; then they gathered an Army of six hundred thousand choise Soldiers. The King of *Corea* also sent to the Emperour of *China*, twelve thousand; with this potent Army therefore they went out in the begining of *March* MDCXIX. to give Battail to the Enemy. The *Tartars* resolved to meet them with an undanted courage; and for a good while the event and victory was very doubtfull; but in the end the Army of *China* was wholly routed, and their chief Com-

manders , with fifty thousand men were all slain : The *Tartars* according to their custome, prosecute the victory with all quickness and diligence ; for the same day they took and sacked two Cities which they burned. After this, they over-run that whole Country, and came to the very Walls of *Pekin* , the Emperours Court; but durst not venture to besiege it, because they knew (besides the infinite number of Canons it contained) there was lodged fourscore thousand Soldiers in it.

But the *Chineses* confess that there was such a fear and consternation in the City, that the King thought to have left that City and gone into the Southern parts of the Kingdom, which he had effectually performed , had not some Commanders suggested

sted that his flight would give courage to the Victorious, and breed trouble and confusion in the whole Empire, being that to fly is nothing else but to yield up the Land to the Enemy. Nay more, they say the disorders were such in the City, that if the *Tartar* had come on, he infallibly had made himself Master of it. But the Enemy was more greedy of Prey, and therefore like a Lightning they over-run all, spoiling and burning all Towns and Cities, and killing and destroying an immense company of *Chineses* in a most cruel manner, and leaving all these places dismantled and without Garisons, The *Tartars* return with great Riches. laden with infinite Riches, they returned victorious to *Leaotung*, where they had their first footing.

After these things had passed,
that

The Em-
perour
Vanley dies
Taichangus
succeeds
and dyes.

that renouned emperour of *Chi-
na* call'd *Vanley* died, and left his
Son *Taichangus* to succeed him;
who begun to gather a new Ar-
my against the *Tartars*; but after
four moneths reign he also died.

Theinkius
is chosen.

To him succeeded *Theinkius*,
who as soon as he assumed the
Crown sent an Embassadour,
with many magnificent Presents,
and worthy of the *China* Monar-
chy, to the King of *Corea*; The
end of this Embassage was to
thank him for the Auxiliary for-
ces sent to his Grandfather,
as also to comfort him for the
loss he had received in the late
service of *China*, and finally to
solicite and presse for further
succours; For it seems those of
Corea, as they are nearer to *Fa-
pony*, so they participate more
of that warlike Spirit and Forti-
tude, than those of *China* doe.

Those of
Corea more
valiant
than the
Chineses.

Besides,

Besides, that he might more effectually divert the imminent danger of his Kingdoms ruin, he leavied new Forces throughout all the Kingdom, which he sent into the Country of *Leaotung*, to hinder the irruption of the *Tartars* any further into the Country; And for their better supply with necessary Provision, he maintained a great Navy in the Haven of *Thiencin* to carry Corn and other necessaries for their maintenance. This Port of *Thiencin* is a Station to which an incredible number of Ships resort, both by Sea and River, from all parts of *China*. So as by this means, by a very short and compendious way, they were easily provided with all necessaries. For all the whole Country of *Leaotung* is almost invironed with the Sea, and the furthest

New preparations
against the
Tartars.

The Port
of *Thien-*
cin very
commodi-
ous.

part

part is but two daies distant by water from this Port of *Thiencin*; but by land far more time is necessary.

The vall-
ant *Ama-
zon* of *chi-
na*.

Amongst other Commanders which came with succours to their Prince, there was one *Heroick* Lady, whom we may well call the *Amazon* or *Penthesilean* of *China*. She brought along with her three thousand, from the remote Province of *Suchuen* carrying all not only Masculine minds, but mens habits also, and assumed Titles more becoming men than women. This noble and generous Lady, gave many rare proofs of her courage and valour, not only against these *Tartars*, but also against the Rebels which afterwards ris'd against their Lord and Emperour. But now she came in this War to supply her Sons place, whom she left at home in his own Kingdome

dome, as being yet a Child, and not able to perform that Homage and Duty to which he was obliged. For in the mountams of the Country of *Suchuen* there is a King, not subject to him of *China*, but an absolute Prince; yet so as he receives the Honor and Title of a King from the Emperour of *China*. after which Investiture, his Subjects only obey him and pay Tribute; But because they surpass all others in Valour and Courage, therefore they are used by the Kings of *China* in warlick Affairs.

By occasion of this war the two noble Christian Doctors, *Paul* and *Michael*, found means to perswade the Emperour to demand of the *Portugeses* of *Macao*, some greater Pieces, and also some Gunnes and Gunners; hoping by this means also to re-
store

The first
invention
o the
Christians
to advance
Chnifia-
nity.

store the banished Fathers of Christianity, as also the Religion it self. And their Proposition took effect, for both the one and the other were sent for, and the Fathers publicly admitted again, and many new Souldiers of *Portugal* came to help the Army.

The Tartars are cast out.

But God did most abundantly recompence this favour done to Christianity; For before the *Portugese* arrived, his Army had cast the *Tartars* out of the Country of *Leaotung*, by means of the Inhabitants of that Country, who being much exasperated by the *Tartarians* cruelty, opened their City Gates as soon as the King of *China*'s Army appeared, and rising againit their Garison, gave entrance to the Army. In-
somuch as they recovered the Metropolitan Town of *Leaotung*;
For

For the King of *Tartary* being diverted by other Wars at home could not come soon enough to relieve it: So as by this means the affairs of *China* began to recover Life, and Strength, and the *Tartars* seemed wholly restrained.

But though Fortune seemed to shew a smiling face for *China*, The *Tartars* make war again. yet, as her custome is, she stood not long constant and stable: For the *Tartarian* King having dispatched his affairs in *Tartary*, sent presently sixty thousand Horse to besiege *Leaoyang* again; promising that himself in person would follow with greater Forces. And this Army They besiege *Leaoyang*, and take it took that strong City in the space of forty hours; both parties fighting with such vigour and fierceness, that thirty thousand of the Garison were killed, and the *Tartars* lost about twenty

ty thousand of theirs. Nay the *Chineses* affirm, that they had never woon the City, had not the Governor been corrupted by great promises of reward, to open them one of the Gates of the Town. But be it as it will, the *Tartars* woon the Town; The Vice Roy hanged himself for grief. But the Kings Visitor, judging it unworthy to bestow the Title of a King upon the *Barbarinn*, In admiration and reward of his Constancy and Fidelity, obtained life and freedom, but he knowing that according to the custom of *China*, he was guilty of death, because he had fought unluckily, more cruel to himself than the barbarous Enemy, hanged himself in his own Garters.

Constancy
rewarded
by the E-
nemy,

The *Tartars* having taken the City, proclaimed by Edict, that they

they should kill none, if they would cut their hair, and use the *Tartarians* Habit. For the *Tar-* The Tar-
tars (that I may say something tors Habits
of their Manners, as my subject and Man-
gives me occasion) doe shave
both the Head and Beard, reser-
ving only the Mustachoes, which
they extend to a great length,
and in the hinder part of their
heads they leave a Tuff, which
being curiously woven and pla-
ted, they let hang down careles-
ly below their shoulders; they
have a round and low Cap,
which is alwaies garnished round
with some pretious skin three fin-
gers broad, of *Castor*, or *Zibellin*,
and serveth to defend their Tem-
ples, Ears, and Foreheads from
colds and other Tempests. That
which appears above the skin
being covered over either with
curious red filke, or else with
D black

black and purple horse-hair, which they die and dress most curiously; so as their appurtenances being handsomely joyned together, makes the capp both commodious and handsom. Their Garments are long Robes falling down to the very foot, but their sleeves are not so wide and large as the *Chineses* use; but rather such as are used in *Polony*, & *Hungary*, only with this difference, that they fashion the extremity of the Sleeve, ever like a Horse his Hoof. At their Girdle there hangs on either side two Handkerchiefes to wipe their face and hands; besides, there hangs a Knife for all necessary uses, with two Purses, in which they carry *Tobacco*, or such like Commodities. On their Left side they hang their Scymiters, but so as the point goes before, and

and the handle behind, and therefore when they fight they draw it out with the right hand behind them without holding the Scabbard with the other. They seldom wear Shoes, and use no Spurs to their Boots, which they make either of Silk, or of Horse-skin very neatly dressed; but they often use fair Pattins, which they make three Fingers high. In riding they use Stirrups, but their Saddles are both lower and broader than ours; Their faces are comely, and commonly broad as those of *China* also have; their colour is white, but their Nose is not so flat, nor their eyes so little, as the *Chineses* are; They speak little, and ride pensively. In the rest of their manners they resemble our *Tartars* of *Europe*, though they be nothing so barbarous.

They rejoyce to see Strangers ;
 They no way like the grimness
 and soureness of the *Chines* gra-
 vity, and therefore in their first
 abords they appear more human.

Having thus briefly described
 their Manners , we resume our
 former discourse , and return to
 the victorious *Tartars* in the Ci-
 ty they had taken; In which, find-
 ing many rich and wealthy Mer-
 chants of other Provinees , they
 published a Licence that they
 might depart with their Goods,
 and withall commanded them
 speedily to voyd the City; Who
 presently obeying the Order ,
 carried away all their Goods and
 Riches, little suspecting the per-
 fideous treachery of the *Tartars*;
 For they had not gone three
 miles from the Town, but being
 set upon by the *Tartars*, they
 were plundred of their Goods ,
 and

The *Tar-*
tars pei fl-
 diousnes.

and lost all their lives; which being done, they returned into the fearfull City, laden with Riches, the Citizens trembling, lest they might happily experience the like perfidiousnes.

But the *Tartar* considering at how dear a rate he had bought the mastering of that City, and fearing also to find the like provision and preparation in other Cities, they durst not make any further attempt; for they knew well that the Emperour had not only fortified all the antient places, but erected also new munitions, in the straights of many hard and rude passages.

And amongst all other strong holds, that of *Xanghai*, situated in the Island of *Cu*, was most eminent, containing a vast number of men in the Garrison, to resist the further progresse of the *Tartari-*

The vali-
antest
Commander of Chi-
na.

rian Forces. But that which most of all repressed the *Tartars*, was the great valour of the incomparable Commander *Maovenlungus*, who having with his great Fleet taken an Island neer *Corea* in the mouth of the River *Talo*, vexed much their Army in the Rear, and was victorious in several Skirmishes against them; so that the *Tartars* bent all their care and thoughts against this their Enemy. This renowned person was born in the Province of *Evangtung*, where being near the *Portugese* of *Macao*, he had much perfected himself in the art of war, and he brought with him many great peices of Artillerie, which he had recovered from the Shipwrack of a *Holland* Ship, upon the Coasts of that Territorie. And because the Emperour of *China* had declared the

the City of *Ninguyven* to be the chief in place of *Leaoyang* (where also he had placed a new Vice-Roy, and his Royal Visitor) therefore *Maovenlungus* placed the best part of his Artillarie upon the Walls of this City.

The *Tartars* therefore acted nothing till the year 1625. and because they resolved to besiege the new Metropolitan City of *Ninguyven*, they first resolved to trie *Maovenlungus* his fidelitie; offering him half of the Empire of *China* if he would help them to gain it; But that noble Soul of his, proved as faithfull as valiant, by rejecting those Demands with indignation; and came presently with his Forces to succour the City *Ninguyven* which they besieged; by which means, the *Tartars* having lost ten thousand men, were put to the flight; and

The faithfulness of the Commanders in *China*.
The overthrow of the *Tartars*.

D 4 amongst

Their
Cruelty.

The Kings
of *China* ,
and *Tartary*
both di-
ed.

among the rest, the King of *Tartary's* own Son was killed. Wherefore being furious with anger, they passed the frozen Sea, and invaded the Island *Tbaoyven*, where they killed ten thousand that kept Garrisons there, together with all the Inhabitants; and by this one Act, having revenged their former discomfiture, they returned into *Tartary*, not with a resolution to sit still, but with an intention to return with greater Forces; By which restraint, all things remained quiet till the year 1627. in which the Emperour *Thienkius* dyed in the flow'r of his age, and with him the whole Empire of *China* seemed to fall to ruin and destruction; and in the same year, the King of the *Tartars*, who had cruelly murdered many men, himself augmented the number of the dead. After

After *Thinarius*, in the Empire of *China*, succeeded that unhappy Emperour *Zungchinus*, *Zungchinus* chosen Emperour of *China*. brother to the former, of whom more hereafter. And after *Thienmingus* King of *Tartary*, succeeded *Thienzungus* his Son, who changed the manner of his Fathers Government, and by good Counsel began to govern the *Chineses* in a curteous and sweet manner; but though he lived not long, yet he served for a good example for his Son to Conquer *China* more by Civilitie and Humanitie, than by force of Arms.

In this year, great *Maovenlungus* Soldiers being insolent by want of action, grew very troublesome and offensive by their Rapines and Disorders to the *Coreans*, who were friends & Allies; and particularly they much exasperated

Thienzungus more milde than his Predecessors.

The Soldiers Insolencies exasperated the Country of *Corea*.

exasperated the Province of *Hi-enkin*, insomuch that some of the Inhabitants of that place, moved with indignation of several passages, secretly treated with the *Tartarian* King to invade the *Chineses* Army, in the habit and attire of the Inhabitants of *Corea*, from whom they could expect no Treason, being leaguerd with them in friendship and amitie: promising moreover their best assistance to effect this mischief, to him that was a Traitour both to Country, King, and the Emperour of *China*. But this Counsell pleased the *Tartar*, and therefore he sent a Vice-Roy with a potent Army, to which the *Coreans* shewed the waies, and guided them through all the passages; who falling upon the *Chineses* Armie (which suspecting nothing

The *Tartars* are brought into *Corea*.

thing, was divided, and many stragling up and down the Country) made a huge Carnage amongst them. But when *Muovenlungus* perceived they were *Tartars*, he presently made head, and gathered a Body of an Army together, and vigorously opposed all those sharp assaults. But yet at length he was forced to yield the Field; and therefore leaving a Regiment or two to hold the Enemy in action whilst his Army retreated, he fled to his Ships, and to the Island which he had Fortified. The *Tartars* were vexed and grieved, both to see their victory so bloody, and also that *Muovenlungus*, whom they chiefly aimed at, had escaped with most of his Army; and therefore enraged with Anger, they fell upon the *Corean* Traitors, and killed every man; which

*Corea wa-
Red.*

which action the King of *Tartary* much condemned; and then turning their wrath to the four Northern Provinces, which border upon *Tartary*, they wasted and destroyed them all in a moment.

In the mean time the King of *Corea* gathered an Army to resist the *Tartars*; and *Maovenlungus* also, having recruited his Forces, came into *Corea* to revenge the received loss. The victorious *Tartars* were come within seven Leagues of the principallest City of all *Corea*. But finding the King to have taken the Straights and Passages of the Mountains which lead unto it, they desperately resolved to force their passage. The Battel was hardly begun, but *Maovenlungus*, after a long march, falls in upon their rear: and the *Tartars* finding themselves encompassed before and behind,

behind, nor any means to escape but by dint of Sword, fought most desperatelie, sustaining the shock of two Armies; And such a Battel was fought, as *China* never saw; for, (it is strange to write, yet very true) of the three Armies, none was victorious, but all in a manner destroyed. Of the *Tartarian* Armie fifty thousand were found wanting; The *Corean* Armie lost seventy thousand; and few or none escaped of the *Chineses* Armie; For their Quatter being most commodious for the *Tartars* flight, they there made their most vigorous Charges, and so forced their way towards their own Countrie. So as none of them all gained the field, or could prosecute the course of a Victorie. Yet the King of *Corea* made a shift to rallie so many together again, as to take possession of

The Fight
and slaughter
of 3
Armies.

The Eastern part
of *Leaotung* is under
the *Tartar*.

The *Portugese* send
succour.

of those his Countries which the *Tartarians* by their flight had left desolate. But the *Tartars* after all the losses, ceased not to make frequent inrodes into the Country of *Leaotung*, and took all the Oriental part of it. From thence they made incursions into the other part, and carried away great Preys and Booties; But they were alwaies so beaten, and so defeated, as they could never fix a constant habitation. For by this time were arrived seven excellent Gunners from the *Portugese* quarters, which both by themselves, and by teaching the *Chineses*, advanced infinitely the King of *China* his Affairs; especially where that Christian Vice-Roy, called *Sun Ignatius*, Commander in chief, of whose affairs we shall say something hereafter

In this conjuncture of affairs,
the

the Emperour *Zungbinus* sent a new Commander called *Yvenus* A crafty Commander of the China Army. into *Leaotung*, with a new Armie and full power to conclude a Peace with the *Tartars*, if they would admit it : For the disorders of the times had caused so many needy persons, Theevs, and Cut-throats, that the Emperour grew more anxious how to suppress this great domestick Enemy, which seemed to aim at the Kingdoms ruin, than he was of the *Tartarian* Forces. This *Yvenus* was a crafty and subtile wit, most eloquent both in speaking and writing; who by politick discourses, drawn from the nature of this war, had wrought so much, not only upon the Emperours mind, but also upon all the Councill, that they esteemed what he concluded as a Law to be observed : Wherefore the

Chineses

*Maowen-
lungus poi-
soned.*

Chineses put all their confidence in him; nor had they been frustrated of their hopes, had not this wicked man been more wedded to his own interest, and love of Riches, than to the publick good, & fidelitie to his Prince: For first he received of the *Tartars* a vast Summe of gold; which wrought so much upon him, as that having invited to a Banquet that most Valorous and Faithfull Champion *Maowenlungus*, whom the *Tartars* only feared, he there poisoned that great Commander.

After this he made a most ignominious and shamefull Peace with the *Tartars*, condescending to all that those that fed him with Riches, could desire; But when the Emperour had perused the Treatie, he presently found his Plenipotentiarian had sold him,

him, and therefore refused to ratifie or confirm the Articles. What should *Yvenus* do in this exigent? That he might force the Emperour to admit them, he perswaded the *Tartars*, in the year 1630 to enter *China* by another Country than that which was committed to his charge, promising them for his part, he would no way hinder their progresse by his Army. The *Tartars* knew that his avarice had so potent an Ascendent over him, as that they need to fear no hurt from him; and upon that Confidence admitted of his Counsell. Wherefore being secure from all assaults from any Enemy behind them, they entered the Province of *Peking*, and besieged the Kings Court: Informing that his Council perswaded him to leave the Imperial

E City,

The Kings
Court be-
sieged.

City, and retire to the Southern Provinces ; but he protested he would rather die , than quit the Northern quarters; and not only so, but he forbid any to depart the Court, or Town besieged. In the mean time the *Tartars* make many fierce assaults, and as often were valiantly beaten back with great loss and Carnage. *Yvenus* was called to resist the *Tartars*, for as yet his Traiterous Complots were not discovered. And lest he should discover his Treason, he comes with his Armie neer the very Walls , which were of so vast an extent, as both the *Chinese* and *Tartars* Armie might perfectly be discerned , though betwixt them there was a great Intervall. But though *Yvenus* was under the Emperours eye, yet he acted little ; for his only aim was to return home laden

den with Riches, he never desisted to perswade the Emperour to admit his conditions of Peace, So that the Emperour finding him evidently to be a Traitor, disclosing his intention to none of his Councell nor Governors, sends to invite him to a privat Councel of war, giving also order that he should be admitted into the Citie by the Walls, lest if any Gate should be open, the *Tartar* being so neer might press in upon them; but indeed he ordered the business in this manner, lest he should bring his Armie into the City with him. *Jucenus* therefore knowing he had many chief men about the Emperours person, who were both his favourites and friends, and that none of them gave him the least sign of any distast the Emperor might conceive against him, he

boldly and securely presented himself at Court ; and as soon as he appeared ; he was presently arrested , and after some few questions, the Emperour commanded him to be kil'd. The *Tartars* hearing of his death (before the *China* Armie had a new General assigned) ransack all the Country round about , and after they had made excursions to the next bordering Province of *Xantung*, richly laden with all manner of Spoiles, they returned to their first residence in *Leaotung*.

The perfi-
dious Ge-
neral kil-
led.

The *Tar-
tars* for-
rage all
the Coun-
try of *Pe-
king* and
depart.

The King
of *Tartary*
dies; ano-
ther suc-
ceeds.

And from these times till the year 1636. the event of their Warrs was very various ; but in general we observe, that the *Tartars* could never fix a foot in *China*, but they were presently beaten out again. In this same year *Thienzungus*, King of the *Tartars* died, after whom, succeeded his

his Son *Zungteus*, father to him that now governs *China*, of whom we now must begin to Treat.

This Prince before his Reign expressed much judgement in severall Occurrences, surpassing all the Kings of *Tartary* in Humanity, and obliging curtesie. For when he was young, he was sent by his Father into *China*; where he lived secretly, and learned the *China's* Manners, Doctrine and Language; and when he came to be Emperour of *China*, he changed, and far surpassed all the Examples of his Predecessors: For having observed, that their too hard and cruel usage of the *Chineses*, had been the principal obstacle of their advancement, to the end he might conquer that Empire he so much thirsted after, as well by love as

Zungteus,
the new
King of
Tartary,
prudent &
milde.

Mildeness
and Gen-
tleness to
be used in
Conquer-
ing Nati-
ons.

by Arms, he curteously entertained and cherished all those of *China* which came unto him, using all Prisoners with great sweetnes, and invited them either to submit freely to his Government, or take their course with full freedom. The fame of his humanity was spread far and neer; which induced many Commanders and chief Officers to fly unto him; by whose means and help, he became Emperour of that spacious and flourishing Country. For experience shews us, that Love and Humanity doe work more upon mens hearts, in conquering and conserving Kingdomes, than Arms; and cruelty of the Conquerors hath lost that, which strength of Arms had happily subdued. Wherefore when the *Chineses* came to understand that the King
of

of *Tartary* did not only afford them a Sanctuary, but a favourable Haven, many great persons flying the Indignation of the King of *China*, sheltered themselves under the *Tartars* protection. For in respect of the *China's* Avarice and perfidiousness, it's a necessary but a most inhumane Maxim, that those Officers perish, who have managed the Kingdoms Affairs with less success. For they easily are brought to believe, that such unhappy events, do not proceed so much from the frown of a scornful Goddess called Fortune, as it doth from the perfidy and negligence of the Commanders. So as if any fought unhappily, or if he lost the Country committed to his charge, if any Sedition or Rebellion happened, the Governors hardly ever escaped

A barbarous Principle of the *Chinese*.

alive. Seeing therefore they found so much Humanity in the *Tartar*, and so much Inhumanity in the Emperor, they rather chose to fly to the former.

Ignatius
the chief
Commander of the
Christians
unjustly
killed.

Ignatius
his fidelity.

By this occasion give me leave to relate what happened to that incomparable Commander (renowned both for Fidelity and Fortitude) called *Ignatius*. This Heroick mind preferd his fidelity to his Prince, before his life, before the *Tartarian's* protection, yea even before the strength of his formidable Army; and chose rather, with his unparallel'd Fidelity, to submit his head to a Block by an unjust sentence, than to abandon his Country, or once accuse the least default in his Sovereign's judgment, though prevented, by very unjust impressions: He might perchance have sway'd the Sovereign Scepter of
China,

China, if he would have hearkened to his Souldiers, but he rather chose to die gloriously, than to be branded with the name of a Traitor in his posterity.

This man therefore after he had gained several Victories against the *Tartars*, and recovered many Cities from their possession, so as he hoped shortly wholly to extirpate them out of *China*, His Souldiers being long without pay, seditiously plundered and pillaged a Town which had ever been faithful to the K. *Ignatius* by several petitions and Remonstrances to the Emperour, had declared his wants of mony, and their want of Pay; but because he sed not those venal souls that managed the business with mony and presents, they alwaies suppressed his humble addresles for relief. Besides, this man being

Ignatius
his Picty.

ing a very pious Christian, he did nothing in his government, but what was conform to Reason and Justice; which was the cause he incurred the hatred of all the antient Prefects; who usually receiving Bribes from the contesting parties, demanded favour of *Ignatius* for their Clients. But it was in vain to intercede for any, unless the justness of the cause did also ballance their Petitions. And these men attributing this proceeding, not to vertue, but to his Pride, thinking themselves undervalued by him, dealt under-hand with the Prefects in the Court, to stop the Armies pay, that so they might destroy this innocent man. Moreover, he was envied by the Commanders in the very Court, because he came to this eminent dignitie by his own valour and industrie; which

which they imagined was only to be given to Doctors, and *Ignatius* was but a Batchelor; as if the most learned must needs be also the most valorous. In this conjuncture of affairs, the Souldiers not contented with the seditious pillage, seeing the most imminent danger hanging over their most esteemed and beloved Governour, by reason of their folly, they go about to perswade him to make himself King of that Country, nay more, to take the whole Empire to himself, as a thing due to his Prowess and Merits; promising their whole strength to effect the business; and also to extirpate those men about the Emperour, that aimed more to compass their malicious ends, than to promote the general affairs of the Empire: But *Ignatius*, by pious admonitions, straved

ved them off from further violence, made them obedient and quiet, commanded all to stand faithfull to the Emperour of *China*, and punished the chief of that sedition.

This Supreme act of fidelity deserved a better esteem and acceptance, than that which was framed by the Emperour and his Court : who slighting this his allegiance, sent another Vice-Roy in his place, and commanded him to appear in Court : He then perceived they aimed at his life ; and the Souldiers suspected the business; and therefore, mad with anger, they all jointly rose in Arms for him, swearing they would live and die with him, and that he should not present himselfe at Court. *It is our duty (say they) to conser ve thy life , which hast been so carefull of ours ; and we*

we have strength and courage enough to resist all the force of thy perfidious Enemies.

But *Ignatius* was deaf to all these allurements, and studied by all means to sweeten their exulcerated minds; alwaies inculcating to them to die true and loyall to their Sovereigns service: chusing rather to water that ungratefull Soil of his native Country with the streams of his Blood, than either to spill his Enemies blood by the force and pow'r of his Souldiers, or retire to the *Tartarian* king, which offered him so fair preferments. But many of his Captains fell off to the *Tartars*; following, in this, not his example, but that of many others, whom they saw eminently promoted amongst the *Tartars*. Some of those that then fled from the Emperour, are now chief

He chuses
rather to
die, than
either to
reign, or
to serve
the *Tar-*
tars.

chief Commanders under the *Tartarian* King, in their *China* Empire; some also have obtained the dignity of Princes, or Riolets in several Countries, for the reward of their Valour and faithfull service against *China*. *So efficacious is that wedge which is made of the same wood.*

But although hitherto these *Tartarian* Warrs had caused great troubles and tempests in the *China* Empire, yet all things now seemed calmed and pacified, so as they seemed secure from any further danger; for the Western part of *Leaotung* was strongly fortified, and there was a great Army in the Island of *Cu*, and the bordering quarters, which hindered the *Tartars* of the Eastern part of the Countrie, which they possessed, from further passage. But now the chieftest danger was
from

from the Traitors and Theeves which were in the very Bowells of the Country, who finally destroyed it; and gave it up in Prey to the *Tartars*.

The Theeves in *China*, a chief occasion of irls overthrow.

I touched something of their Commotions before, now we must treat a little more largely of their proceedings, that the Reader may see how the *Tartars* came to subdue and conquer *China*

The first Combination of these Rovers appeared in the remote Country of *Suchuen*, who having pillaged divers Cities, and emboldened by prosperous success, ventured to besiege the chief City of that Country call'd *Cingtu*. which they had infallibly taken, if that valiant Amazon, whom I mentioned before, had not come to relieve it with her Army; but by her valour they were bearen off

Several Theeves.

They are
defeated,
but not
vanquish-
ed.

I amin
augments
the Theevs

off with great loss, and not being wholly extinguished, they retired into the mountains to recruit their Forces. These were seconded by a like Race of people in the Province of *Queichen*, who took occasion of rising by reason of an unjust Sentence passed in a Sute betwixt two *Grandeos* of that Country; and one of these great persons being offended with the Governors. These roving companions, first kill'd all the Magistrates which had pronounced that unjust Sentence; & then they defeated the Vice Roy his Army; yet afterwards he routed them again with a new Army, but could not extinguish them. Besides these, the Famine increasing in the Northern quarters in the Countries of *Xensi* & *Xantung*, by reason of a great inundation of Locusts which devoured all, there rise up
by

by this occasion , many loose fellows which lived by Rapin. These men at first were few in number, and small in strength , and only preying in little places , they presently fled to the Mountains; but finding they got both Meat and Riches , with little labour and less cost , they quickly got Companions to reinforce them; This Sedition being much augmented by the Emperour *Zungchinus* his notable avarice, And the Emperour his avarice who so exhausted the people by Imposts and Taxes, as if it had been a year of the golden Age. The Prefects of the Provinces , not being able presently to repress the insolency of those people, they daily increased in courage and strength ; Insomuch as in several Countries they had eight very considerable Armies. They chose the strongest and valiantest

F

The Com-
manders
aspire to
the Em-
pire.

liantest men amongst them for their Commanders; and these persons being grown rich and potent by preying, deposed now the person of the Ringleader of Theeves, and aspired to no less than to the Empire of *China*. And at first they fought one against another, every one laying hold one what he could: But at length things were brought to that pass, that two of the Commanders being only left alive, these two prevailed with the souldiers of those that were killed, to follow their Ensignes and Fortune; and they knowing well that if they were taken by the Emperors Officers, they could not escape a most certain death, easily resolved to shelter themselves under the Arms of these two victorious persons. The name of one of these chief Brigands was *Licungzus*, the second

The
names of
the chief
Felons.

second was called *Changhten-chungus*, two notorious bold roguish fellows, who lest they should destroy one anothers fortunes by their ambitious emulation, they separated themselves far from one another, resolving both to pursue their prosperous fortunes. *Licungzus* therefore possessed himself of the Northern parts of *Xensi* and *Honan*; and the other tyrannised the Countries of *Sachuen* and *Huquang*. But that we may not interrupt our discourse, by delivering the Acts of both these together, we will first treat of *Licungzus* his feats, being it was he was the cause of the *Tartars* coming to the Empire (which he himself might have possessed, if his proceedings had been moderate and human) and of the other we shall speak hereafter. Therefore in the year

They vex
several
Provinces.

1641. thele pilferers liaving got immense riches in the Province *Xenfi*, made an irruption, in a vast body, into that delicious sweet Provins of *Honan*, and went strait to the chief City called *Caifung*, which they besieged. There was in that place a very great and strong Garison, who by the benefit of artillerie mounded upon hand-wheeling Chars, forced them to quit the siege; then they fell upon all the neighbouring Cities, Plundring, spoiling, and burning all they could master. Having horded up store of provision of Corn, and augmented their Army by a company of Rascally Vagabonds and loytering fellows, they returned again to besiege the Metropolitan City; but despairing to take it by Force or assaults, they resolved to ruin it by a long Siege, that they

They be-
siege the
noble Ci-
ty *Caifung*

they might enjoy the immense Riches of that noble City; and though this Town be three great Leagues in circumference, yet they rounded it so by their lines, as nothing could enter the City; this drave them to some straits, for although the Purveyer for victualls had brought in good store of provision in the two moneths space in which they were absent, yet because that Province which used to be most plentiful, was lean in Corn, they could not make sufficient provision for six moneths siege, for such an infinite multitude of people as were retired within the Walls; Yet it held out most obstinately for the space of six moneths, in which time though they were brought to hard shifts, yet hoping alwaies for succour from their Emperor,

F 3

they

An un-
heard of
Famin.

they would never submit to any conditions. I dare not relate to what an excess this Famin came too, but it seems it surpassed the Famin of *Hierusalem*; a pound of Rice was worth a pound of Silver, & a pound of any old rotten skin was sold at ten Crowns; dead mens flesh was sold publickly in the Shambles as Hogs flesh, and it was held an act of Piety to expose the dead in the Streets for others to feed on, who shortly were to be food for others; but I will pass over, & conceal yet more horrible things than I have related. This City lies towards the South side of that vast & precipitate River which the *Chineses* call *Hoang*, because the Streams alwaies appear of a yellowish saffron colour; & because the River is higher than the plain levell downs, of a Leagues distance from
the

the Town, they built upon the River side, a long & strong Bulwark of great square stones, to prevent all inundations. The Emperours Army, after long expectation, came to relieve the Town, and advanced as far as these Bulwarks, and having considered the situation of the Country and Enemies Camp, it was thought the fittest and easiest way to raise the siege without giving battail, to let in the water upon the Enemies Army, by some breaches made in that long Wall or Bulwark. It was in *Autumn* when they took this resolution, and the River, by reason of extraordinary rains, was swoln bigger than ever before; and they making the Sluces, or Inlets, too great, and the Breackes too wide, gave way to such an Ocean of water as it overrun the

The City
of *Caisung*
is drowned

Walls of the Town (which were very stately and high) involving not only many of the Enemies in its ruin and destruction, but also 300000. men, and the City it self perished in those floods of water. So the antient City, which heretofore had been honored by the Emperor's Residence, appeared no more a place of pleasure, but a vast Pool or Lake for Monsters of the waters to inhabit; for the houses of the Town were not over-run with water, but also beaten down; and also the Church of the Christians, together with their Priest, who was one of the Society of Jesus; it was well known he might have saved himself, but being there were many Christians perished, he willingly chose to die with those he had gained. The destruction of this City happened

happened the ninth of Oct. 1642.
 about which time this famous
 Conductor of Theeves took the
 name of King, with an addition The Ge-
neral of
the
Theeves.
takes the
Title of a
King.
 of *Xunvang*, which sounds as
 much as *Prosperous*, and so was
 stiled *Licungzus the prosperous*;
 and having in a manner taken all
 the Country of *Honan* into his
 Dominion, he returned into the
 Province of *Xensî*, and wonn it
 wholly to his subjection. When He takes
the Coun-
try of *Xen-
sî*.
 he came to *Sigan*, which is the
 Metropolitan of *Xensî*, he found
 some resistance from the Garri-
 son, but he took it in three daies,
 and for a reward and encourage-
 ment to his Souldiers, he gave it
 to them to pillage also for three
 daies space; and then he gather-
 ed up all the Corn of the whole
 Province, as well to keep all the
 Country in their duty to him, as
 also to leave no Forrage for the
 Emperours

Calls him-
self Em-
perour.

Emperours Army. And now thinking himself secure of the whole Empire, he took the name of Emperour upon him, and stiled the Family wherein he thought to establish this Dignity, *Thienxunam*, as much as to say, *Obedient to Heaven*; By which Title he perswaded the Souldiers and the People, that it was by the disposall of the Heavens that he should reign, that he might deliver the people from the Emperours Avarice, and extirpate those wicked Governours, that so much vexed the people, and deliver them from all their perfidious Plots. For he knew well, that this Glorious Title would be very acceptable to them of *China*, who believe that Kingdoms and Empires come only from Heaven, and are not gained by any Art or Industry

Industry of Man; and that his
 actions might carry a face corre-
 spondent to his illustrious Title,
 he began to use the People with
 all humility and sweetness, not
 permitting any Souldier to ^{The}
 wrong or iujure them; only he ^{Theeves}
 persecuted all the Officers call'd ^{good Go-}
 Presidents, which he could find, ^{vernment.}
 and all those he put to death; and
 as for those that had been Presi-
 dents, because he found them
 rich, he made them pay great
 Fines, and let them live; remit-
 ting all Taxes in the places he
 subdued; severely commanding
 that the Subjects should be trea-
 ted with all Civility and Curte-
 sie. So as all men applauding
 and loving so sweet and milde a
 Government, easily submitted to
 his Power and Dominion; but
 where the Governours use Tyran-
 ny, there the Subject hath little
 care

care of Fidelity. There were in the City two Priests which served the Christians, that were Jesuits, and suffered much in the sackage of the City; but being afterwards known for Strangers, they were used with all humanity.

The Presents Dis-
cord was
another
cause of
the ruin of
China.

In the mean time a third cause of this Empires ruin grew up in the Court; which was hatched in the Emperour *Thienkius* his time: For that Emperour exalted an Eunuch called *Gueio*, to such a height and power, as he gave the absolute Power and soveraign Command into his hands, and passed so far as allway to stile him by the name of Father. This extravagant power caused much Envy, Dissention, and the banding one against another amongst the Governours, Presidents, Commanders, and Counsellors

Counsellours : and the Eunuch also added much to incense the flame, by his indiscreet usage of the favour he possessed; for if any man had touched him, either in word or writing, or expressed less respect unto him in conversation, or behaviour, or did not flatter the base fellow, he would presently give order to put him to death, though he were a very eminent person ; or at least degrade him from all Office or Dignity. By which means he exasperated many, and amongst the rest he offended the Prince *Zunchinius*, who now, by the death of his Brother without issue, was come to be Emperour of *China*. This Emperour knew that the Eunuch had moved Heaven and Earth to hinder his coming to the Crown; but seeing he could not effect that, at least he

he maintained a seditious faction against the great ones , which finally proved the destruction of the Estate; For these men banding in two factions, studied more how to destroy one another, than to advance the publique good ; yet both parties pretended the general good, but both neglected it; Every party endeavouring to extoll and exalt his own Creatures into places of trust and power : All which when *Zunchinius* the Emperour went about to redresse, he exasperated the minds of many of the Commanders against him; for as soon as he came to the Crown he cruelly persecuted all that favoured the Eunuch, and in fine killed this very Eunuch which had been his Predecessors Favourite, together with many more of his kind; of which Tragedy I will only relate the Catastrophe. The
Empe-

Emperour *Zungchinus* resolving to destroy both the Eunuch and all his power , sent him an order to go visit the Tombs of his Ancestors , to consider if any of those antient Monuments wanted reparation: the Eunuch could not refuse so honorable an imployment, which seemed rather an addition to all his honours; but he had not gone far upon his journey, but there was presented to him (from the Emperour) a Box of silver gilt, with a Halter of Silk folded up in it ; by which he understood he was to hang himself by the Emperours order: which he could not refuse, being that kind of death (amongst the *Chineses*) is counted honourable, when it is accompanied with such formalities. But by this occasion the Emperour raised new Factions and more Traitors , which held
secret

secret correspondence with the Theeves Army. Hence it came to pass, that no Army was sent to oppose them, or if any went they did no manner of action, being alwaies hindered by the emulation of others; nay it happened often, that when they might have taken great advantages, yet the occasion was neglected, lest the Commanders should increase their Power and Credit, by their Victories, with the Emperour. These Dissentions and Emulations happened so seasonably to the Roving Army of Theeves, as that to *come, to see, and conquer*, was to them one and the self-same thing, as I shall declare unto you.

The
Thee vs
take the
Province
of *Xenfi*.

Whilest these transactions passed in the Court, *Licungzus* Conductor of the Theeves, having settled all things in the Country

try of *Xenfi*, passed to the East; and coming to the famous great River of *Croceus*, finding on body to defend it, he passed over with as much facility, as it might have been maintained with ease, if there had been placed but a handfull of Souldiers. For this River runns with a violent rapid course, and with as vast a Sea of waters from West to East; but being there was no man to defend it, they passing it easily, presently seizd upon the chief and richest Citie in all those quarters, called *Kaiangchen*, which is situated neer the South bankside of that River, and being carried on with a strong gale of Fortune, he seized upon all other Cities, every one desiring either to free themselves from further vexation, or blindly and fondly submitting them-

G

selves

selves to any new change of Government. For we commonly delight in varieties and novelties, and hoping for better, we find worse. Only the City of *Thaiy-ven* made some resistance, but being presently subdued, was fined with great vast summes of mony for their temerity. The Empe-
rou *Zungchintus* hearing the Theeves had passed the River *Croceus*, and were advanced to the very Confines of *Xenji* (which borders upon the Province where he had placed his Throne & Roy-
 all Seat) he sent an Army under the Lord Marshal of *China*, to hold them at least in play, if he could not overthrow them ; Put this Army did just nothing, nay most of the Souldiers ran to the Thieving party, in so much as the Lord Marshal himself, cal-
 led *Colaus Lin*, seeing Affairs grew

grew so desperate, Hang'd himself for fear of further shame and dishonour. The Emperour hearing of the ill success of his Affairs, began to think of leaving the Northern parts, where his Royal City of *Peking* is situated, and to pass to *Nankuing* which is far more Southward; but he was dissuaded from this intended course as well by his loyal, as disloyal Subjects: by these, that they might give him up more speedily into the enemies hands, before their treachery was discovered; and by the others, lest his flight might trouble the Kingdom more, and discourage all his Subjects from giving their best assistance; for they thought the City impregnable, being fortified with so strong a Garrison; nor did they doubt that the Kings presence

The Emperour of China is troubled.

would draw the forces of the whole Kingdom to him. And their Counsel had been good, if the Court had been purged of Traytors.

The Stra-
tagem of
the Theef.

In the mean time the Theeves Condu&tor, who was no less quick and nimble in execution, than witty in invention, sowing a Fox his tayl to the Lions skin, caused many of his Souldiers in a disguised habit to creep into that Princely City, and gave them mony to trade in trifling ware, till he assaulted the Wals with the body of his Army, for then they had order to raise sedition, and tumult in the City; and considering they were a Company of desperate Fellons, & of a very low & base fortune, it is stupendious to think how they could keep so profound secrecy in a matter of so high concernment:

cernment : But to this mine, which was prepared in the bowels of the City, he held a secret train of Intelligence, with the Lieutenant of the City, who seeing the Emperours Affairs desperate, is said to have dealt with the Conductor of these Brigants about giving up the City unto their power; But, however it was, these Pilferers came in a short time to besiege the Royal City of *Peking*. There was in that City a vast Garrison, and as great a quantity of Artillery; but on the Quarters upon which the enemy made there assault, there was none charged with Bullets, but only with Powder.

Wherefore being secure from any annoy from that side, in the year MDCXLIV before the rising of the Sun, they entred the Metropolitan City of all

The Royal City of *Peking* is taken.

China by one of the Gates which was opened to them ; nor was there any long resistance made, even by those that were faithful to their Prince ; for the Soldiers of the Thief, which lay lurking in the City, made such a tumult and confusion, as none knew whom to oppose, in which respect they made a great slaughter, so as *Licungzus* in this Babylonian confusion, marched victorious through the City, till he came to the very Emperours Pallace, where though he found some resistance from the faithfullest Eunuchs, yet notwithstanding he presently entred that famous and renowned Pallace ; And that which exceeds all admiration, the enemy had passed the first Wall, and Precinct, and yet the Emperour being alive, knew nothing of so
 strange

strange a passage ; for the Trai-
 terous Eunuchs, which were of
 most Authority, fearing he might
 escape by flight, deferd to ad-
 mohish him of his own danger,
 or of the taking of the City, till
 they saw he could not possibly
 evade: Who hearing this dole-
 ful news , he first demanded if
 he could get away by any means;
 but when he heard that all pas-
 sages were beset , he is said to
 have left a Letter writ with his
 own Blood, in which he bitterly
 expressed to all posterity , the
 infidelity and perfidiousness of
 his Commanders, and the inno-
 cency of his poor Subjects ;
 conjuring *Licungzus*, that seeing
 the Heavens had cast the Scep-
 ter into his hands, he would, for
 his sake, take revenge of such per-
 fidious Creatures . After this
 reflecting he had a Daughter
 Marriage-

The Em-
 perour ha-
 ving kild
 his Daugh-
 ter hanged
 himself.

Marriageable, who falling into the villains hands might receive some affronts, he called for a Sword, and beheaded her with his own hands in the place; then going down into an Orchard, making a Rope of his Garter, he hung himself upon a Prune tree. Thus that unfortunate Emperour put a period, as well to that Empire, which had flourished so long with much splendor, riches, and pleasure, as to his Illustrious Family of *Taimingus*, by finishing his life upon so contemptible a Tree, and in such an infamous manner: To all which circumstances, I adde one more, that as the Empire was erected by a Theef, so it was extinguished by another; for although, others were chosen to succeed him, as we shall relate hereafter, yet because they held a small
parcel

parcel of the Empire, they are not numbred amongst the Emperours. His example was followed by the Queen, and by the Lord Marshall, who is call'd in their language *Colaüs*, together with other faithfull Eunuchs; So as those pleasant Trees which served heretofore for their Sports and pleasures, now became the horrid and surest Instruments of their death. And this cruell butchering of themselves passed not only in the Court, but also in the City, where many made themselves away either by hanging, or drowning by leaping into Lakes; For it is held by this Nation to be the highest point of fidelity to die with their Prince, rather than to live and be subject to another.

Whilest these things were
acting,

The
Theefs
Tyranny
and cru-
elty.

acting, *Licungzus* enters the Pallace victorious, and ascending up to the Chair of State, fate himself down in that Imperial Throne; but it is recorded, that in executing this first Act of Royalty, he sat so restlessly and unquietly, yea so tottering-ly, as if even then that Royal Chair would foretel the short durance of his felicity. The next day after, he commanded the body of the dead Emperour to be cut into small pieces, accusing him of oppression and cruelty against his Subjects; As if he, being a villanous Traitour, and a Theef, after the faccaging and burning so many Provinces, and sneedding such an Ocean of blood, had been of a better disposition. So we often condemn others, when we do worse our selves, and remark, yea, augment, the
least

least fault of others, when we either take no notice, or diminish our own. This Emperour *Zung-chirus* was Father of three Sons, of which the eldest could never be found, though all imaginable means was used for his discovery; some think he found means to fly away; others think he perished by leaping with others into the Lake; the two others being yet little Children, were by the Tyrants command beheaded three days after; his barbarous humour not sparing even innocent blood: Which disposition he made shortly appear, when casting of that veil of Piety and Humanity, with which he had for some time charmed the people, he commanded all the Principal Magistrates to be apprehended, of which he murdered many with cruel torments

ments, others he fined deeply, and reserved the Imperial Palace for his own aboad. He filled that most noble and rich City with ransacking Souldiers, and gave it up to their prey and plunder; where they committed such execrable things, as are both too long, and not fit to be related. But by this his horrid cruelty, and Tyranny, he lost that Empire which he might have preserved by curtesie and humanity.

Amongst the other imprisoned Magistrates, there was one a venerable person called *Us*, whose Son *Usanguetus* governed the whole Army of *China*, in the Confines of *Leaotung*, against the *Tartars*. The Tyrant *Licungzus* threatned this old man with a most cruell death, if by his paternal power over his Son, he did not reduce him with his whole

whole Army, to subjection and obedience to his power, promising also great Rewards and Honours to them both, if by his fatherly power (which they hold sacred) he did prevail for his submission. Wherefore the poor old man writ to his Son this ensuing Letter.

It is well known that the Heavens, Earth, and Fate can cause these strange vicissitudes of Fortune which we behold; know my Son, that the Emperour Zunchinius and the whole family of Taimingus are perished. The Heavens have cast it upon Licungzus; we must observe the times, and by making a vertue of necessity, avoid his Tyranny; and experience his liberality; he promiseth to thee a Royal dignity if with thy Army thou submit to his Dominion, and acknowledge him as Emperour:
my

my life depends upon thy answer ; consider what thou owest to him that gave thy life.

To this Letter his Son Usanguewis returned this thort answer. *He that is not faithfull to his Sovereign, will never be faithfull to me : and if you forget your duty and fidelity to our Emperour , no man will blame me if I forget my duty and obedience to such a father. I will rather dye than serve a Thief.*

The Tatars called into china against the Theeves.

And presently after the dispatch of this Letter , he sent an Embassador to the King of Tartary, desiring his help and force to subdue this Usurper of the Empire ; and knowing that the Tartars abound in men, but want women , he promised to send him some store ; and presented him with several curious Silks , and sent him gteat store of Silver

ver and Gold. The *Tartarian* King neglected not this good occasion, but presently marched with fourescore thousand men, which were in Garrison in *Leao-tung*, to meet General *Usanguetus*, to whom he expressed himself in these words. *To the end to make our Victory undoubted, I counsell you to cause all your Army to be clad like Tartars, for so the Thief will think us all Tartars, seeing I cannot call greater Forces out of my Kingdom so soon as is required.*

Usanguetus, thirsting nothing but revenge, admitted all conditions, little thinking (as the *Chineses* say) that he brought in *Tygers* to drive out *Dogs*. *Licungzus* hearing the march of the Tartars together with *Usanguetus*, knowing himself not able to resist, quitted the Court and Palace as easily as he had taken

The
Thieves
fly from
the Tar-
tars.
it :

it: but he carried with him all the rich spoils of the Court, and marched away into the Province of *Xensi*, where he established his Court in the noble City of *Singan*, which heretofore had been the seat of the Emperours. It is accounted that for eight days space by the four Palace Gates, there was nothing seen but a continual succession of Coaches, Horses, Camels, and Porters carrying away the pretiouslest treasures, though they left also much, because the enemy approached. Thus the immense Riches of Gold and Silver, which the Emperours of the *Taminoean* Family had at leaseure hoorded up, in the space of two hundred and fourscore years, were in a moment dispersed. But although they fled very speedily, yet they could not avoid the swift Tatarian

They carry away the Treasures of the Palace.

tarian Horses, for overtaking
 their Luggage, and the Rear of
 the Army, they Pillaged and
 vexed them for eight days; but
 yet they either could not, or
 would not pass the River *Croceus*,
 that so they might speedily
 return to amuse the trembling
 hearts of the Territory of *Peking*.
 The *Tartars* return therefore
 victorious and rich into the Ci-
 ty *Peking*, and there being admit-
 ted by the *Chineses*, they gave
 them the Empire. V Where it is to
 be observed, that although *Zung-*
tens, the *Tartarian* King, dying ^{*Zungteus*}
 at the first entrance into *China*, ^{King of}
 did not obtain that noble Empire ^{the Tar-}
 he so much thirsted after; yet he ^{*tars* dyes.}
 gave those Instructions, of the
 manner of conquering it, to his
 Council, that they never desi-
 sted till they obtained it. This
 Prince dying, declared his Son
 H of

of six years old, his Successor; commanding all his own Brethren to manage the Childs Affairs with all fidelity and circumspection, making his eldest brother his Tutor; and all those brethren, being Uncles to the Child, by a stupendious Union, and never to be parallel'd in any ambitious Nation, exalted this Infant to the possession of the Empire.

The *Tartars* refuse
to depart
China.

These things being thus passed, *Usanguelus*, seeing the Thief expelled, began to think of creating a new Emperour, one of the *Taiminga's* Family, who was a Prince not far distant: But being mindful of his promises made to the *Tartars* he offers them their rewards; he highly extols their Fortitude and Fidelity in the Kingdomes quarrel; and finally, desires them now to depart the Countrey quietly, and to entertain a strict alliance

ance and friendship with them ,
 ſeing they had abundantiy re-
 venged all former iniuries. To
 this demand the *Tartars* returned
 a long premeditated answer, but
 far contrary to what *Uſangueius*
 expected, which they delivered
 in theſe rearms.

*We do not think it yet a fit time to
 leave you & this Empire, unleſs ha-
 ving heard our Reasons, you ſhould
 ſtill perſiſt in your demand; for we
 conſider, that many of the Theeves
 are ſtill extant, and ſeem rather
 diſperſed than extinguished; and
 we hear that their great Conductor
 Licungzus, hath fixed his Impe-
 rial Seat in Sigan, the Metro-
 politan of the Province of Xenſi;
 by which means he ſtill poſſeſſeth
 the richeſt and moſt populous Pro-
 vinces, which are ſtill under his
 Dominion If we depart, worſe is
 to be feared will follow; He feared*

us Tartars, when he hears we are gone, having now time to recruit his Forces, he will doubtless make new Invasions, and perchance we shall not be able to send new Succors: We therefore resolve to prosecute the Victory, and quite extinguish those Vagabonds, that so you may deliver the Empire to your designed King, in full peace and tranquillity. Be not solicitous of paying our promised Rewards, for they are as safe in yours as in our own hands. That which we now desire to execute, is, that which presseth most, and seems to us to require no delay, that you, with part of your Army and part of ours, march speedily against Licungzus, and we with the rest, take our march towards the Province of Xantung, to extirpate those Theeves that have settled there; By this means the peace of
the

Their
Craft and
Deceit.

the Kingdome will be firmly established.

Usanguieus either did not understand the Stratagem, or if he did, he condescended not to irritate an Army in the Bowells of the Kingdome.

Before the *Tartars* (which were called) entred *China*, they sent into their own and other Kingdomes to raise as many men as possibly they could, to the end they might conquer the Empire after they had acquitted themselves of their promised assistance against the Theeves. But these Succours, not being arrived to reinforce them, therefore they thought it best to use no force, but gain time by fair words and new projects. But whilst this business was contriving, there came an immense company of *Tartars* into the Empire; not only from the Kingdomes of *Ni-*

A great company of *Tartars* enter *China*.

uche, and *Niulham*, but also from
 the old Occidental *Tartary*, and
 from a Countrey called *Yupi*,
 which is more Oriental, and lyes
 above the elevation of *Fapony*.
 This people is called *Yupi* by
 reason they make their Coats of
 defence, or Breast plates, of fishes
 skin, which grow in a manner
 impregnable. Nay which is
 more, I saw very many who
 were come as far as the River
Volga; which people these *Tar-*
tars call *Alga Tartas*, and I
 find they have a Notion of *Mus-*
covy, and *Polony*, but they are
 far more barbarous than the Ori-
 ental *Tartars* be; with these aux-
 iliary Forces, came in the infant
 King of six years old, Son to the
 late deceased King of *Tartary*,
 and when these were joyned
 with the body of the Army, then
 they publickly proclaimed their
 right to the Empire, and openly
 declared

The *Tar-*
tars cease
 upon the
 Empire of
china.

declared their concealed intentions; and proclaimed this child of six years old, Emperour of China, by the name of *Xunchi*, and the new created Imperial Family they stiled by the name of *Tartaring*. The Child of six years old took possession of the ancient Throne of his Forefathers, with a great gravity and Majesty, from whence he delivered this judicious Speech to the Commanders and to his Army.

Xunchi is crowned the first Emperour of the *Tartars*.

It is your strength and pow'r more than my felicity (my dear and generous Uncles, & you the rest of my noble Commanders) which supports my weakness, and makes me so undantedly ascend and possess this Imperial Throne. This my Constancy, and this Chairs stability, I hope, is as happy a sign of my future prosperity, as its tottering proved unfortunate to the Thief Licungzus his Tyrannie. You see

my first step to the Empire ; but I know your valour to be such , that I look not only upon the Kingdome of Chma as my own , but conceive the Empire of the World , not only by me possessed , but also establihed. The rewards due to such insomparable Veturs , shall be no other than the riches of the Empire , and Royal dignities ; proceed therefore valiantly and stoutly. The whole Court was astoniished to hear a Child of six years old speak so much sence , and hence they concluded that fate or Heaven had elected him for King ; But yet , the young Prince did assume his eldest Uncle , as his Tutor and Father , the same day he was admitted to the Empire : and therefore the Tartars in their language , called him Amahan , as much as to say , the Father King ; which very thing ,
the

the *China's* exprefs by the word *Amavang*. To this man therefore he remitted all the Conduct of his Wars, and to him it is, the *Tartars* owe all their greatness and Dominion: for as he excelled in Counsel and prudence, fo also he was as eminent in fortitude and fidelity; and withall by the strength and force of his reasons and Counfels did ravish the wifest men amongst the *Chinefes*, and his Juftice and humanity did wholly enthrall and enchant the popularity. To all which I adde thofe fugitive Magiftrates, who, as I related heretofore, had fled too the *Tartars* to avoid the Emperours indignation, did not a little promote their caufe; for thefe men, fometimes by word and example, did feducethe hearts of the Subjects, and fometimes fugged

The fidelity of the Kings Tutor called *Amavangus*.

sted dangerous , but political Counsels to the *Tartars*, against their own Country ; but by both these means advanced themselves to high and eminent dignities amongst the *Tartars*.

The same day some Bands of Souldiers were dispatched, with order to proclame *Usangaeius* a Tributary King to this new enstalled Emperour, which they performed with great magnificence, adding to his name (as usually they do) the Sirname of *Pingsi*, which sounds as much as *Pacifier of the Western world*: in which quarters they established his Kingdom in the Capital City in the Province of *Xensi*. This Prince considering that he could expect no more honourable Dignity from the lawful Successour to the Empire of *China*, and that the *Tartars* were come
into

into the Empire, in so vast a number, that he could never hope to Conquer them, found means to dispence with his hitherto uncorrupted fidelity, admitting the dignity, and submitting to the Emperour; and so he that had hitherto waged VVar for *China* against the Theeves, now was forced to march against *China* to subdue its Provinces to the *Tartarian* Empire. And as he was a Great Commander, so also by the help of the *Tartars* he quickly drove out the Theeves from his little Kingdom of *Xensé*, where to this day he reigneth in the Metropolitan City of *Sigan*. But by these honours the *Tartars* removed him from the practice of Arms, who remaining Armed, might have proved a dangerous enemy.

It was hitherto never known
what

usanguis
forced to
serve the
Tartars.

It is not
known
what be-
came of
Licungzus.

what became of *Licunzus*, some think he was killed by *Usanguetus* in the fight, though he never appeared more, neither dead, nor alive, after this fight, in which all his forces were dissipated, or cut off. And with the same facility the *Tartars* subdued the Provinces of *Peking* and *Xantung*, where they immensely augmented their Armies, by the access of the *China's* Souldiers and Commanders which submitted to them; for the *Tartarians* admitted all, even the Conquered, to their Army if they did cut their Hair, and wear their habits, after the *Tartarian* fashion: for in this Punctilio of Habit and Hair they were so rigorous, as they proclaimed it high Treason in all that did forbear it. VVhich Law, did many times endanger the

them , and disturb the whole frame of their Affairs : For the *Chineses* both grieved , and fought more valiantly for their Hair and Habit , than for their Kingdom and Emperour ; So as many times they chose rather to dye , or lose there heads , than obey the *Tartars* in these Ceremonies ; of which I could relate many examples , unless in this relation I had resolved to be brief. But all these little rubs , did not hinder , but that in less than the space of a year , (not counting *Leuotung*) they had conquered *Peking* , *Xansi* , *Xensi* , and *Xantung* , which are the four vast Northern Provinces of *China*. In all which they changed nothing in their Political manner of Government ; nay , they permitted the usual custom of the Philosophers of *China*

to

The *Tartars* subdued several Provinces.

They
changed
no Laws
of the Na-
tion.

to govern the Towns and Provinces; they left also the same Examens as were used for the approving of learned men; for by this prudent Counsel they wrought this effect, that having given the places of honour and trust to men of their own Creation, they found they surpassed the very *Tartars* in fidelity to them; yet they kept the *Militia* in their own hands, and the ordering thereof, & yet they st cl'd not to admit even to these Offices, such of the Country as were faithful to them; so as in the Royal City they retained still the same Orders and degrees of Prefects, together with the six high Tribunals, as they were established in the former Emperours time: but so, as they were now compounded of *Chineses* and *Tartars*.

In

In the mean time the news of the Emperours danger came to the Southern parts of *China*, and the Prefects of every City gathering together very great forces marched towards the City of *Peking*; but in their march they received the sad news of the Emperours death, and the taking of *Peking*, they therefore speedily called back their Forces, and also all their Ships, which yearly used to carry Provisions to the Emperours Court; a little after this, they received the news how the *Tartar* was invested in the Kingdom and proclaimed Emperour. I was then my self in the great City *Nanquin*, where I beheld a strange consternation in the confusion in all things; till at length having recollected themselves, the Prefects resolved to choose

Hung
quangus
Crown'd
Emperour
in *Han-*
quin.

an

an Emperour of the Family of the *Taiminges* whom they called *Hungquangus*. This man came flying from the Theeves of the Province of *Honan*, and being he was Nephew to that famous Emperour *Vanley*, and Cosen Germain to *Zungchinus* the last deceased Emperour, they Crowned him with great pomp and ostentation; hoping for better fortune under his Government. As soon as this Prince was chosen he sent an Embassage to the *Tartars*, begging Peace, rather than demanding it; for he offered them all the Northern Provinces which they had taken, if they would joyn in amity with him. But the *Tartars* well understood the Policy of these Prefects and Counsellours; which was only to amuse them with a Peace, whilst they

they could resume their strength and force ; And therefore they returned answer, that they would not receive as a gift, that which they had conquered by force of Arms; but seeing they had chosen a new Emperour, they might do well to defend him ; but as for them, they were resolved to have all or nothing . This Legacy comming to nothing , whilst both parties prepare to take the Field , appears at *Nankuing* a young man, who gave himself out to be the eldest Son to the late deceased Emperour *Zunchinius*; and he gave no small evidences of this truth and Clame ; nay, he was acknowledged by many of the Eunuchs. But the new elected Emperour *Hunquangus*, being strongly touched by the ambition of reigning, would never acknowledge him, nor

The Tars admit
no Peace.

Xanchini-
as his Son
appears a
Nankuing.

He causes
troubles
in China.

admit him ; but commanded him to be imprifoned, and killed as an Impcftor , though many of the Prefects enraged to hear of this order, hindered the execution of the fentence. But by this accident, things grew into a fedition , and the difpute was fo high, that it gave occafion to the *Tartars* to take to the Province and City of *Nankuing* ; fome of the Prefects winking at it, if not enticing them underhand to this exploit. The *Tartars*, vigilant to lay hold of all advantages, hearing of thefe emulations and divifions, prefently march out into the Territory of the City of *Hoaignan* , and coming to the Eaft fide of the River *Croceus* , they pafs over fpeedily by the help of their Boats ; on the other fide of this River flood the Army of *China*,

na, which was so numerous, as if they had but cast off their very shoos, they had erected such a Rampart against the *Tartars*, as all the Horse would hardly have surmounted it. But it is the resolution and valour in War, carries the Trophies, not the number of men: for hardly had the *Tartars* set foot in their Boats, but the *Chineses* ran all away, as Sheep use to do when they see the Wolf, leaving the whole shore unfenced to their landing. The *Tartars* having passed the River, finding no enemy to resist, enter the most noble City of *Nankuing*, and in a trice make themselves Master of all the North part of the Country, which lyes upon the great River of *Kiang*, which is so vast, as it is worthily called the Son of the Sea; where it deserves particularly

The flight
of the *Chineses*.

larly to be noted as a rare thing in the Warfare of the *Tartars*, that before they enter into any Country, they chuse and name both the Governours, and Companies, with all the Officers necessary for all the Cities and places which they aym to take; so as in a moment they run like a lightning, and no sooner they possess it but it is fortified, armed, and defended. There was one City in these Quarters which made a generous resistance to all their re-iterated assaults, called *Yangcheu*, where the *Tartars* lost the Son of a little Royalet. This City was defended by that faithful Imperial Champion called *Zuus Colaüs*, but though he had a mighty Garrison, yet he was at length forced to yield; and the whole City was sacked, and both Citizen and Souldier put to

The City
Yangcheu
resisting
the *Tartar*
is taken
and burnt.

to the Sword; and least the multitude of the dead Carcasses, should corrupt the Air, and ingender the Plague, they laid them all upon the tops of the Houses, and setting fire both to the City and Suburbs brought all to ashes, and to a total desolation.

By this progress the Forces of ^{The Tar-} the *Tartars* much entreated, for ^{tars take} the Governours of many places, ^{several} and several Regiments came to submit to his Dominion. To all which he commonly continued the same Commands and Offices they were established in before, and advanced many of them to higher dignity; and so by this humanity with which he treated all that came flying to him, and by the cruelty he used to those that resolved to make resistance to the Force of his

Arms, he gained this, that most men resolved to partake of his sweet treaty, rather than of his cruelty; so he easily conquered all that which lyes on the North side of that River, which I named before the Son of the Sea. This River being a *German* Leage in breadth, and rising from the West of *China*, holds its course to the East, and divides the Kingdom into Northern and Southern Quarters; it also divides the Country of *Nankuing* in the very middle; though *Nankuing* the Metropolis and Royal City be placed in the Southern part. To Master this great City, they were to pass this River. They gathered therefore together many Ships, to Conquer this new Imperial seat, and also the new settled Emperour. The Fleet of
China

China commanded by the most generous and faithful Admiral called *Hoangchoangus*, lay towards the other side of this River. Here the Admiral fought so gallantly and resolutely that he skowred all *China*, and made it appear to the world that the *Tartars* were not invincible; Till at length one of his own Commanders called *Thienus* born in the City of *Leaotung*, being corrupted by the *Tartars*, shot him with an Arrow to death which Arrow fixed the unconstant wheel of *Chinas* fortune, and lost the whole Empire But the Traytor, not contented with this perfidious Act, began himself to run away, and by his example draw all the rest to imitate this Ignominious Action. His impudence passed yet to a higher strain, for coming to
I the

The Em-
perour
Hunquan-
gus is ta-
ken and
killed.

the Imperial City, and finding the Emperour preparing to retire, he joyned himself with him, as a faithful friend participating of his adversity; till he heard the *Tartars* (who passing the River followed the Kings flight with all imaginable diligence) were come near him, and then he took the Emperour Prisoner, and delivered him to the *Tartarian* army in the year MDCXLIV. This unfortunate Prince being thus betrayed before he had reigned full one year, was sent to *Peuking*, and there upon the Town Walls was hanged publicly in a Bow string, which kind of death the *Tartars* esteem most noble. The pretended Son to the Emperour *Zunchinius*, whether he were true or false, run the same course of fortune, when they had discovered him still alive

live Prison: for they did not only put to death all those which belonged to the Imperial Family of the *Taiminges* by Consanguinity, but after a diligent search extirpated all they could find, which belonged to them even by Affinity; for it is a custom in *Asia*, if any one Conquer a Kingdom, to root out all belong to the Royal Family.

After this they divided their Army into two parts; the one they sent to Conquer the Mediterranean Provinces of *Kiansi*, *Huquang*, and *Quangtung*, which are all of a marvellous extent; the other like a swift Torrent over-run all, till they came to the very VValls of the renowned and vast City of *Hangchen*, which is the head City of the Province of *Chekiang*. Into this City the principal fugitives of the Army of

The Tar-
tars run to
the City
Hangchen.

of *China* were retired ; and those not only of the common Soldier but many great Commanders, and Prefects, where they resolved to choose a new Emperour called *Lovangus*, of the ancient Family of *Taimingus*. But this Prince would never assume the Title of Emperour, but contented himself with the Title of King ; thinking his fall would be less, and his death not so bitter, as if he fell from the Throne of an Emperour : but yet to the end to animate them to fight with more vigour than they had done heretofore, he promised them to take that title when they had regained one Imperial City. He had not reigned three days (a shorter space than their personated Kings use many times to reign in their Tragedies) but the *Tartars* arrive;

rive ; Which the fugitive Soldiers seeing, and thinking by this pinch of necessity to force their pay from the King and City, refused to fight before they had received their salary : It was on this occasion that King *Louangus* his heart, not able to bear such a desolation of the Citie, of his people and Subjects, as he foresaw, gave such an example of his Humanity and Piety, as *Europ* never saw ; for he mounted upon the City Walls, and calling upon his Knees to the *Tartarian* Captains, he begged the life of his Subjects. *Spare not me* (quoth he) *I will willingly be my Subjects victime*, and having denounced this unto them, he presently went out to the *Tartars* Army, where he was taken. This Illustrious testimony of his love to his Subjects

King *Louangus*
love to his
Subjects.

had not wanted a reward to Crown so Heroick an Action, if it met with a generous Soul like that of *Alexander* or of *Cæsar*. VVhen they had the King Prisoner they commanded the Citizens to shut the Gates, and keep the VVals least either their own, or the Kings Souldiers should enter the City, and presently they fell upon the Kings men, whom they butchered in a most cruel manne, but yet the water destroyed more then there Swords or Arrows; for many cast themselves headlong into the great River of *Cianthang*, which is a Liege brood and runs neer the City, others leaping and overcharging the Boats in the River were presently sunck, o- others flying away full of fear and confusion, thrust one another at the River side into that
unmer-

Many of
the Kings
Souldiers
drowned.

unmerciful Element, and by all these many thousands perished. The *Tartars* wanting boats to pass this River, having thus expelled or killed the Sculdiery, they returned Triumphant to the City, where they used neither force, nor violence; by which means this noble City was conserved, whose beauty, greatness, and riches, I hope to describe elsewhere, not by hearsay, but by what I saw the three years space I lived in it, and what I found when lately I came from it, into *Europ*. This City of *Hangcheu* hath an Artificial Channel or Dick to pass by water to the Northern parts of *China*; This Chanel is onely separated by the high part of the way like a Causeway from the River, which as I said, runs on the South part of the City. The

Hangsneu
is taken.

Tartars

Tartars therefore drew many Boats out of this Chancel over the Causeway into the River *Cien-thang*, and with the help of these Boats they pass the River without resistance, and found the fairest City in all *China* called *Xao-king* prone enough to submit to their victorious Arms. This City in bigness yields to many others, but in cleanness and comeliness it surpasses all: it is so environed with sweet waters as a man may contemplate its beauty by rounding it in a Boat; it hath large and fair Streets paved on both sides with white square stones, and in the middle of them all runs a Navigable Chancel, whose sides are garnished with the like ornament, and of the same stone there are also built many fair Bridges and Triumphant Arches, the Houses also, (which

which I observe no where else in *China*) are built of the same square stone; so as in a word I saw nothing neater in all *China*. They took this Town without any resistance, and so they might have done all the rest of the Southern Towns of this Province of *Chekiang*. But when they commanded all by Proclamation to cut off their Hair, then both Souldier and Citizen took up Arms, and fought more desperately for their Hair of their Heads, than they did for King or Kingdom, and beat the *Tartars* not only out of their City, but repulst them to the River *Cienthang*: nay forced them to pass the River, killing very many of them. In truth, had they past the River, they might have recovered the Metropolis with the other Towns:

But

The Chinese defend their Hair.

But they pursued their victory no further, being sufficiently contented that they had preserved their Hair, resisting them only on the South side of the shore, and there fortifying themselves. By this means the conquering Arms of the *Tartars* were repressed for a whole year. But the *Chinois* that they might have a Head, chose *Lu Regulus* of the *Taimingian* Family for their Emperour, who would not accept thereof, but would be only stiled the restorer of the Empire. In the mean time the *Tartars* had sent for new forces out of *Peking*: with which they left nere a Stone unturned, that they might get over the River *Cienthang*: but all was in vain. The drooping Affairs, therefore of the *Chinois* had a breathing: nay having gathered together
more

more Forces, they promised themselves greater victories. But a desire and emulation of ruling frustrated all their hopes. For the Commanders, and Presidents which fled the Province of *Chekian* into the Country of *Fokien*, carried with them one of *Taimingas* Family called *Thangus*, and this man they chose King in the Country of *Fokien*, which confines with *Chekiang*. This Prince pretended that the K. called *Lu*. should yield up his right to him, both because he had but a few Cities under him, and also, because he was further removed from the Imperial race, then he was. But King *Lu*. pretended he was Proclaimed by the Army, before him, and wanted not to set forth his victories over the *Tartars*. By which two contentions, the *Tartars* came

to the Crown; for these two Royalties, would never yield to one another, nor so unite their Armies as joyntly to repress the *Tartars*. Since therefore this petty King *Lu* had onely eight Cities under his comand, whose Contributions were not able to maintain the necessary pay of his Army, he never durst venture to pass over the River, but endeavoured only to defend himself. But the *Tartars* sought all means possibly to get over this River, yet they durst not venture to pass in Boats, because King *Lu* had many Ships and good store of Artillery which he had caused to come from Sea. But the *Tartars* felicity, and prosperous fortune, overcame this difficulty: for as it happened that year being dryer then ordinary, this River towards the South,

South, where it runs betwixt high Mountains, which break the ebbing and flowing of the Sea, had lost much water and of depth, and here the *Tartars* Horse found it passable; and because the rudeness of those Mountains, seemed a sufficient Guard to the Country, they found no Souldiers to resist; but as soon as the Clowns espied twenty of their Horse to have passed the River, they presently advertised the Army, and they all betook themselves to flight. King *Lu* himself left the City *Xaoking*, and not daring to trust himself to the Continent, he took Ship and sayled to the Island called *Cheuxan*, which lyes opposit to the City of *Nipus*; where he remains to this day safe, and keeps still his Regal dignity; which Island being

The *Tar-*
tars pass
the River,
and recu-
ver the
City *Xa-*
king.

The Island
of *Cheusan*
becomes a
Kingdom.

heretofore only a retreat for Fishermen, and some Clowns, now is become a potent Kingdom; by reason that many fly from *China* to this King *Lu*, as to there sanctuary to conserve the liberty of their Hair. In this Island they are now found three score and ten Cities, with a strong and formidable Army, which hitherto hath contemned all the *Tartarian* Power and Forces, and watch for some happy occasion to advance agait their Kingdom in *China*. But by this means, the *Tartars* took all the Cities and Towns of the County of *Chekiang* into their Dominion. One only City of *Kinhwa*, whose President was aswell a Native of the place, as also the Commander in Chief, and my very singular friend, sustained the *Tartars* assaults for

for some months. But to the end the resistance of this City should not be a hinderance to the course of their victories, the *Tartars* divided their Army into three parts. The first part marched towards *Kinchen* by the Mountains, the second went by the City *Venchen*, and the Sea shore, into the Province of *Fokien*; and the third obstinately besieged the City of *Kinhox*. In this Siege the *Tartars* by reason of great Guns which continually played upon them, and by the wise Conduct and courage of their noble Commander, suffered many and great losses; insomuch as he forced them to pitch their Camp further from the City; But at length they also brought Artillery from the chief City, by which they made so many breaches in the Walls

The City
of *Kinhox*
is taken
and de-
stroyed.

as being in a manner dismantled, they found entrance; and burned and sacked it with, all imaginable Hostility. The Governour blew up himself and all his Family with a Barrel of Gunpowder in his own Pallace, least he, or his, should fall into the Enemies hands.

The Province of *Fokien* is invironed with the bordering Countries of *Quamtung*, *Kiansi*, and *Chekiang*; from all which it is separated by a continual Chain of Mountains which are even in breadth of three days journey to pass over; and withall, so full of ragged and ruggy Clifts, and obscure Vallys, as they make the very Paths horrid, dark and obscure at Noon day. Infomuch, as without any exaggeration they may well be paralelled either to the *Grecia*

The Tartars take
in *Eokien*
very easily.

Grecian Straits of *Thermopolis*, or to the *Asian* rugged and strait passage of *Taurus*. These places might have been easily defended if they had but placed a few Clowns, to repel the Enemy or overthawred the ways by any incumbrances; but the very imagination of a *Tartar* was grown so terrible to them, as they fled at the very sight of their Horses; leaving therefore these Mountains wholly ungarnished the *Tartars* found a passage, but so very painful, and full of difficulties, as they were forced to leave much of their Bagage behind them; and lost many of their Horses, in those fearful precipices; but by this means they took the Province of *Fokien* with as much ease, as it might have been defended, for they hardly spent as much time

in taking it as a man would do to walk the extent of it. The King himself whom I named *Lunguus* (as signifying a Warlike Dragon) shewed himself a fearful Sheep, flying away, with a good Army of men, if that word of good, can be applyed to a numerous multitude that had no hearts; but his flight served him for nothing; for the *Tartars* following him with their swift and nimble Horses, shot all this heard of silly Sheep to death with Arrows. It is thought the King himself was involved in this Massacre, for he never appeared, nor was heard of afterwards.

King
Lungu'm
slain.

Now because the whole Province submitted it self voluntarily unto him without any resistance, it did not only suffer little from the *Tartars*, but he
may

may choose and select Souldiers out of it; and having thus again recruited his Army, he made another irruption into the Country of *Quamgtung*; and its worth remarking, that the other *Tartarian* Commander who when the Army was divided as I related before, had order to subdue the Mediterranean Countries; this man with some felicity and expedition passing victorious through the Provinces of *Huquang* and *Kiangsi*, entred also on one side of this Country of *Quamgtung*, whilst the other came in by *Fokien*, and because the Town of *Nankiung* resolved to fight it out, they consumed it all, by fire and sword. So the poor Country of *Quamgtung* oppressed by a double victorious Army, was quickly over-run and subdued

The Provinces of *Quamgtung* is taken.

After

After the Glorious Trophies ,
 one of these victorious Armies
 enriched with all the rarities of
China, was called back to *Peking*,
 but yet they left a Garrison in
 every City, assigning in the name
 of the King of *Tartars* both Ci-
 vil and Martial Officers, for the
 Countries Government.

The happy success in taking
 the impregnable Province of
Fokien, is attributed by wise men,
 (to whose judgement I also sub-
 mit) to a more remote and hid-
 den cause which I will briefly
 relate. There was at this time a
 famous and renowned Pyrat
 called *Chinchilungus* ; this man
 was born in the Province of *Fo-
 kien*, of which we are treating ;
 he first served the *Porteguise* in
Macao ; then he served the
 Hollander in the Island called
Formosa, where he was known
 to

A famous
 Pyrate in
China,

to all strangers by the name of *Iquon*. After this he became a Pyrat, but being of quick and nimble wit, he grew from this small and slender fortune, to such a height and power, as he was held either Superiour or equal to the Emperour of *China*; for he had the Trade of *India* in his hand; and he dealt with the *Portugise* in *Macao*; with the *Spaniards* in the *Phillippins*, with the *Hollanders* in the Island *Formosa*, and new *Holland*; with the *Japonians*, and with all the Kings and Princes of the Eastern parts in all manner of rich commodities. He permitted none to transport the Wares of *China* but himself or his, to whom he brought back the riches and the Silver of *Europ* and *Indies*; for after he once rather extorted then obtained pardon of the King
of

of *China* for his Pyracies, he became so formidable, as that he had no less than three thousand ships of which he was Lord and Master. Nor was he contented with this fortune, but aspired privately to no less than to the Empire; But because he knew he never should be accepted of the prelates & people, as long as there was any of the Imperial Family of the *Taiminges* alive, he hoped by the *Tartars* means to extinguish them wholly, and after this was done, then he resolved to display his Banners and Ensigns in so pious a cause, as the driving out the common Enemy from the bowels of the Kingdom, and no doubt but under this pretext, they would all have followed, helped and even adored him, as their Saviour.

our. It was therefore evident that he had secret correspondence with the *Tartars*; and that he favoured them for his own profit; And that which made the business more suspicious was, that at that time when the *Tartars* made their irruption into *Fokien*, he was then declared Lord Marshal of the Kingdom, and all the Generals, Commanders and Souldiers, were either of his affinity, or wholly at his Command and Obedience. And therefore it is no wonder if he found an easy admittance into the Country of *Fokien*; of which they presently made him King *Pingnan*, (as much as to say; *Pacifier of the South*) and they added many other Dignities, and Offices of trust, that they might more speciously illude him; for either they knew his aspiring mind,

The *Tar-*
tars de-
 ceive the
Pyrat, and
 take him
 Prisoner
 by meer
 Art.

mind, or else his great power and authority was suspicious and formidable to them; but yet all the while the General of the *Tartars* remained in *Fokien*, they never expressed the least diffidence in him, but both with favours, courtesies, presents and honours, they studied how further to ingage him, and promised the Government of many more Provinces. He made himself therefoie secure of the Government of all the Southern Provinces; but all happened quite contrary to his expectation; for when this General of the *Tartars*, who was observed as a little King, was to depart to *Peking*, the custom was for all the Officers of the Kingdom to conduct him, for some part of his journey to give him an honourable farewell; which last duty

duty of Civillity, *Iqnon* could not handfomely avoid, nor indeed, bad he any reason to be diffident of any distrust in him; so as he left his Navy in the Port of *Fochew*, and accompanied the *Royolet* with great splendor and magnificence. But when he came to take leave, and demand Licence to return; the General of the *Tartars*, invited him along to *Peking*, where he promised him yet greater honours from the Kings own person, to reward his Merits. He endeavoured by all imaginable occasions, to excuse this journey, but nothing was accepted, he was forced by their kindness to accompany them to *Peking*; and so he was taken by Art, who by Arms seemed Insurmountable. He yet lives in Prison in *Peking*; because his Brothers
and

and Kindred hearing of his Captivity, presently ceased on the Fleet; with which they have much infested *China*, as we shall touch hereafter.

The *Tartars* ever-
thrown
Quangsi.

In the mean time the other Army which had passed the Mediterranean Provinces of *Hu-quang*, *Kiansi*, and *Quangtung*, invaded the Country of *Quangsi*. But here it was that the Arms of the *Tartars* which hitherto were held invincible, were shewed to be weak, and where they least expected opposition, there they found the greatest destruction. It happened that in this Province of *Quangsi* the Vice Roy, called *Khlu Thomas*, was a Christian, and the chief Commander also of all the *Militia* of that Country was commanded by *Ching Lucas*, whose family for five Generations has served the
Emperours

Emperours of *China*, with as much constancy and fidelity, as they did Christ. These two having gathered many together, which fled from all parts into *Quangsi*, after the *Tartars* had taken many places in the Country, overthrew the *Tartarians* in a set Battail; and passing into the confining Province of *Quangtung*, they recovered all the Western part of it. After this that they might have a head to fight for, and who might command and govern them in all Occurrences, and withall to draw the minds and hands of the *Chineses* to the common defence of the Country, knowing that in the City of *Queilin*, which is the head City of *Quangsi*, there was one of the *Taiminges* Family living, who was Nephew to the Great *Vanleius*, they

L

elected

Jungley
made Em-
perour of
China.

elected him Emperour, and called by the name of *Fungley*. This Prince fixed his Imperial seat in the noble City of *Chatking* in the Province of *Quamgtung*, and hitherto has fought several times with the *Tartars*, with good success. And in this Princes Court, the chief Eunuch called *Pang Achilleus*, is the greatest favourite, and a great Servant of Chrih, whom he hath long professed to serve both by word and deed; for to propagate Christianity he has ever maintained a mission of Jesuites about him, by whose painful endeavours many have embraced the Faith of Christ; And amongst others the very Mother of this Emperour, his Wife, and his eldest Son, Heir of the Empire, called *Constantin*, did all imbrace Christianity. May this Man by the prayers
 of

The Heir
 to the Em-
 pire be-
 comes
 Christian.

of all Christians prove another *Constantine* to the Empire of *China*. The Emperour himself is not averse from Christianity, but hitherto he hath deferr'd his Baptism, but yet he permitted his Wife to send a Father of the Society to do homage to the Sea Apostolick, as all *Europe* has heard. God of his goodness grant him that felicity, which may redound to the universal good of *China*, and Gods greater Glory.

But it was not only in *Quang-si* that the *Chineses* began to resume their courage, but in the Province of *Fokien* also; for no sooner was the *Tartarian* Army called back to *Peking*, but a petty Heathen Priest broke out of the Mountains of *Fokien*, with a band of seditious fellows, and subduing the *Tartarian* Gar-

Theeves
infest the
Province
of *Fokien*.

risons he took the fair City of *Kienning*, and many others from their iubjection; and others which lay lurking in the Mountains following his example, recovered also many other Cities; about which time also the friends and Kindred of the Captive *I. quon* did extremely infest the Sea, and making descents upon the Land vexed the Province extremely about the Quarrers of *Siuenchou*, and *Changcheu*. At this time the Governom of the Province of *Chekiang* was Vice-Roy of two Provinces, who hearing of these commotions came presently by night in great hast with all the force he could make, towards the Mountains of *Fokien*; for he with reason feared lest they should take possession of the passages of those places, which if they had done, the whole

whole Province had been regained. But when this Vice Roy called *Changus*, found the Mountains and passages clear, and no opposition made in such difficult places, he then proclaimed himself victorious, and his enemies perfidious Rebels: wherefore comming without resistance into the Country, he besieged the City *Kienning*, which was defended by *Vangus*. This Siege held some weeks, but he never could take the place by force, and therefore having lost many of his men by assaults, he judged it best rather to block up the place a far off, than to besiege it so close and neer. But yet by this, he hindred other forces from joyning with *Vangus*, so that he was not strong enough to fall out upon them.

Changus
the Com-
mander of
the Tar-
tars besie-
ging *Kien-
ning* in
vain.

When the noyse of these com-

It is at
length ta-
ken and
razed.

commotions came to *Peking*, the Emperour presently sent a new supply to appease these tumults ; and this fresh Army coming to joyn with the other, brought the City to great streights ; but yet they could not win it, till at length they found means by a rare invention to transport their Canons over the Mountains upon Porters Shoulders, by which means they dismantled the Town, and put all whatsoever to the Sword, to the number of thirty thousand persons, as my own friends writ unto me ; and not content with this, they set fire on the Town, and brought it all to ashes, by which means, the stately Church erected by the Christians for the service of God, was also consumed by that devouring flame ; yet the Priests that served in
that

that Church got out miraculously as *Lot* did out of *Sodom*, which name was appropriated to this City, by reason of that infamous vice. This City being taken, it was no hard matter to recover the Country; for some fled to save themselves in the Mountains, others ran to the Sea, and so when this new Army had pacified all, they were called back to *Peking*; where it is not amiss to observe the policy which the *Tartars* use in the Government and ordering of their Army; they are ever calling back some, and sending out others; in which proceeding they aim at two things; first to keep the Countries in awe and subjection, by seeing variety of Troops continually passing up and down; and secondly to provide for the poorer sort of Soul-

ers; for the wealthy Souldier is call'd back to recreate, and ease labours, and the poor Souldier seeing his Companion grown rich, takes heart and courage to run the course upon hopes of the like good fortune.

Yet for all these preventions and cautions, their Empire was not so ettablised, but by frequent rebellions it was often endangered, and particularly by one Rebellion which now I will relate, which shaked shrewdly the foundations of the new Empire.

How the
Tartars
dispose
their Gar-
risons.

The Kingdom of *China* is of so vast an extent, as it is a business of main importance, to distribute judiciously the Armies, and Garrisons. Now because the *Tartars* alone cannot suffice to furnish both, they are forced to use the help of the *Chineses* themselves, although they have

a special care never to leave or place either Commander or Souldier who is a Native of the same Country, where they sojourn ; yet this care could not exempt them from several Treasons, and Rebellions ; yet they distribute and order their *Militia*, with great circumspection ; for the chief Commander or Governour resides in the Metropolitan City , whom all inferiour Officers obey. This man, maintains alwaics a compleat Army , which he commands to march, when he hears of any risings. Every City has also their own proper Governour, with a competent number of Souldiers, but those for the most part are *Tartars*, and these are *Chines*. But all this Political, and well-establisht Government could not defend them
from

Kinus Go-
nour of a
Province
rebelleth.

The ha-
tred be-
twixt the
two Pre-
fets di-
sturbs the
Country
of *Kiansi*.

from Traitors amongst them-
selves. The first man that did
revolt from them was one *Kinus*
Governour of the Province of
Kiangsi. This man was born in
Leaotung, and because it is a
Country that borders upon *Tar-
tary*, the King commonly most
confides in the Natives of that
Province. It happened, I know
not how, that this Governour,
by reason of some corruptions,
and Avarice of the Visitor of
the Country, had some difficul-
ties with him, which grew by
little and little to open hatred;
and although they both dissem-
bled their private malice, as
usually they do in *China*, yet at
length the flame broke out to
the ruin of the Country; for
being the one was Governour
of the Arms, and the other of
justice, there was a necessity of oft
meetings,

meetings, & feasting also. It happened once that whilst they were feasted with a sumptuous Banquet, they were also entertained by a pleasant Comedy; in which the Actors were attired with the habits of *China*, which were more comely and fairer than those which the *Tartars* use; upon which occasion *Ktnus* turning himself to the Visitor said, *Is not this habit better, & graver, than ours?* This innocent speech was interpreted by his corival Judge, as if he had contemned the Edict about changing of Habits, and expressed too much love to the *Chines* Garments, before those of the *Tartars*; and of this he sent an Express to advertise the Emperour.

But the Governour *Kinus*, had a corrupted Secretary, which served the Lord Chief Justice, who

who gave him intelligence of all that passed in word or deed in his Masters House. And as soon as he had notice that this Letter was sent to the Court, he presently dispatched those who intercepted the Packet, which the Governour having read, went presently armed to the Judges Palace, whom he suddainly killed. Then presently he with the whole Province revolted from the *Tartars*, and with the great applause of all the *Chineses*, he submitted himself to *fugley* the new elected Emperour. One onely City called *Cancheu*, which was governed by an incorrupted *Tartar*, refused to submit, which was the whole, and onely cause, that the *Tartars* did recover the two Provinces *Kianfi* and *Quamtung*; both which Provinces revoked at the same time

time with their Commanders ,
 and both submitted also to the
 new elected Emperour . *Libu-* Many pla-
sus was Governour of *Quamtung* ces revolt
 at that time , who resolved to from the
 joyn his Forces with *Kinus* , and Tartar.
 so to cast the *Tartars* out of the
 Empire ; which it is beheved
 they might have affected, if the
 Governour of *Cancheu* , which
 is the Key and entrance into
 four Provinces , had not cun-
 ningly undermined all their
 designs and intentions. But this
 man hearing that *Libuzus* had
 revolted, and marched to joyn
 his Army with *Kinus*, dispatched
 to him this deceitful Letter. *I* The de-
have not hitherto submitted to ceipt of
Kinus, because I knew his forces the Go-
were not equal, nor able, to resist vernour of
the Tartars: But seeing thou my *Cancheu.*
most renowned and valiant Cap-
tain, begins also to march against
them,

them, my hopes are at an end. I am thine, and imbrace thy cause ; whensoever thou shalt come , or send, I will render my City to thee or thine. But in the mean time he sent to all the Governours in *Fokien*, to send him secretly all the possible succour they could raise altogether. *Lihuzus* having received the Letter marched towards him, as cheerfully, and as confidently ; But though hee found the Gates of the City open, yet he was furiously repelled by the *Tartarians* opposition ; which unexpected accident so astonished his Souldiers , as many of them perished , and amongst the rest it is thought himself was killed, for he was never heard of after.

This reverse and cross fortune did much disturb the progress of the Emperour *Jung-ley's*

ley's affairs, though *Kinus* in the mean time had many singular victories over the *Tartars*; for when the chief Governour of all the Western parts of *China*, who had placed his chief Seat in *Nankning*, had gathered great Forces to repress this aspiring mind, yet he was several times routed and overthrown by him, and if *Kinus* had pursued the course of his victories, he might have come to the very Walls of *Nankning*; but he was solicitous of the City of *Cancheu*, which obliged him to a retreat; for neither was it safe for him to leave an enemy behind him, nor could he receive victuals from the Emperour *Fungley*, but by *Cancheu*, which is the natural descent of the River, and therefore when he heard of *Zihuzus* defeat, he presently be-
tieged

sieged that City with his whole Army ; But whilst he was besieging this City , their came, unfortunately, a new Army of *Tartars* from the Imperial City of *Peking*, which had order to recover this Province of *Kiang-si* ; and therefore *Kinus* was forced to raise his Siege to oppose their entrance by the Northern parts of the Country; And at first having a vast Army, and used to the *Tartarian* warfare, he fought both valiantly and happily ; but not being able to sustain any longer their redoubled violent assaults, he was forced to retire for his security to the *Nanchang*, the chief City of that Country ; which City the *Tartars* durst not venture to take by force, but resolved to reduce it by a long Siege ; for which end they gathered together a
 Company

was besieged by
 the *Tartars*.

Company of Country Clowns to make a large and spacious Trench round about the City to the River, and there they placed Ships, so as no Provision could possibly enter. This City of *Nanchang* is great and extremely full of inhabitants, besides the multitude of Souldiers which defended it at that time; so as although *Kinus* had made great Provision for a Siege, yet after some months he came to great want and penury; and yet he held it out though many dyed, expecting still some succours from the Emperour *Fungley*, which could not be sent; because the Souldiers of *Quangtung* could never subdue the City of *Chanchen*, by which his succour was to pass; wherefore *Kinns* being brought to great extremity, expressed his mind to his

M Souldiers

Souldiers in these words, *There is no further hope, (my faithful Companions) but in our own valour and strength, we must force our way through the Tartarian Army by dint of Sword; be courageous, and follow my example.*

Kinus
breaks out
of the Ci-
ty.

And having ordered all affairs, he suddainly made a Sally out of the Town upon their Trenches, where, though he found a vigorous opposition, yet with great difficulty he passed and forced their Trenches, by which means he saved himself and his Army, having killed many *Tartars*; for it is constantly reported that *Kinus* with his Army lives in the Mountains, expecting there some good occasion to renew the War.

The City
of *Nan-
chang* is
destroyed.

He being thus escaped, the *Tartars* Pillaged the City, and put all the Citizens to the sword; for

for it is the *Tartars* custom to spare all Cities which submit to them, and to those which have made resistance before they were taken they are more troublesome, but they never spare or pardon those Cities which revolt after they have once been taken. In this Slaughter they killed the two Priests which assisted the Christians, and their antient and fair Church was burned in the City. After this the *Tartars* easily recovered the whole Country, and having appeased all, and left new Garrisons in all places, the Army returned victorious to the Royal City of *Peking*. In the mean time this Court prepared new Armies to reduce *Quamgtung* with the other Provinces which acknowledged *Fungley* for the Emperour of *China*; for the Tutor to the

M 2

young

Three
Kings
created
with as
many Ar-
mies a-
gainst
Jungley
the Em-
perour of
china.

young King of *Tartary* finding the defections and rebellions in the Southern parts to be very frequent; resolved to give those Quarters over to some Tributary Royolets, the better to contain those Countries in their duties; wherefore in the year MDCXLIX. he sent three Armies, consisting partly of *Tartars*, and partly of *Chineses*, under three Tributary Princes, to govern these Provinces with absolute power and Dominion; one of these was King of *Fokien*, another of *Quamgtung*, and the third of the Province of *Quang-si*; but with this condition, that first of all they should joyn their Forces to recover the Country of *Quamgtung* and drive away the Emperour *Jungley*. But we shall say more of this hereafter; now having seen the Rebellions

ons of the South, let us look a little back on the Rebellions in the North against the *Tartars* also.

In these Northern parts the *Chineses* shewed their desire of Liberty as much as they had done in the South; where the Commanders though overthrown, yet not taken, retired into the abrupt and precipitious Mountains, where they held Counsel, how they might shake off the *Tartars* Dominion; three of these heads inhabited the thickest and highest places of that mountainous Country; the chieftest of which was called *Hous*; this man being strong in men, invited the rest to joyn with him, to deliver his Country from this miserable thraldome; one of them consented, the other could not come, but

Hous ri-
seth a-
gainst the
Tartars.

sent him two thousand men to assist him : so as *Hous* marched out with five and twenty thousand men, which was no contemptible Army if they had been as couragious, as numerous : He put out a Proclamation, in which he challenged the *Tartars*, and threatned them all extremities, and to the *Chineses*, he promised all liberty and freedom ; and upon these hopes , many Towns and Cities admitted him very willingly. *Sigan*, the Metropolitan of the Country, was the only place able to resist him, having in its Walls three thousand *Tartars*, and two thousand selected men of *China*, who served the *Tartar* The Governour of this Town hearing of *Hous* his motion , gathered all things necessary for a long Siege, till a new supply of *Tartarian* Forces

Forces could be sent him. But when he heard that all the Towns and Cities in the Country did voluntarily submit themselves to *Hous*, to prevent the like effect in his own City, he resolved to murder all the Citizens most barbarously; nor would he ever be removed from this unhumane sentence, till the Vice-Roy commanding and persuading, and the Citizens promising all faithful service, at length he changed this Tyrannical Counsel. But he commanded under pain of death, that whereas hitherto the *Chineses*, who loved so much their Hair, that they only cut a little of it away, about their Temples, should hereafter shave it off wholly and totally, that so he might distinguish the Citizens from any others if perchance they en-

The barbarous resolution of a *Tartarian* Governour.

tred : he ordained besides, that if any spoke more than two together, they should all be presently killed ; he forbade all men to walk upon the Walls, or to walk in the Streets by night, or to keep a Fire or Candle in his House by night, and finally disarmed all ; declaring it death to infringe any of these orders.

The chief City called *Sigan* is besieged. These things being thus ordered, he sent out some Scouts to discover the enemies strength, who were partly killed, and partly came flying back to the City ; but this *Tartarian* Governor, as well to make an ostentation of his strength, as of his security, commanded the City Gates to be left open, nor would he permit the Draw Bridge to be raised or pulled up, to shew he feared nothing. But for all this

this the Commander *Hous* besieges this City a far off, which was three Leagues compass, and out of the reach of their Artillery; and to the end he might make a shew of greater forces than indeed he had, he joyned to his Army a Company of dull headed Clowns, by which means he made up a Body of thirty thousand men. The Governour of the City seeing such an Army as appeared, believed them all to be Souldiers, and lest his Citizens should joyn with them, he thought again of cutting all their throats; but his friends ever diverted him from this outrageous cruelty; and therefore to divert himself from such horrid projects, he used to walk upon the Walls, and recreate himself in seeing the *Chineses* under his colours fight so valiantly

valiantly against *Hous* ; for when he saw this, he used to cry out in their Language, *Hoo Manzu*, (as much as to say) *O good Barbarians* ; for so the *Tartars* call the *Chinaes*, as conquering Nations use to expose the conquered to scorn and derision ; and he crowned this scoff with these words *Maxuxa Manzu* as much as to say, let the barbarous kill the barbarous ; yet notwithstanding when they returned victorious, he did not onely praise them, but gave them Money, and other pretious rewards, which were exposed to publick view upon the Walls to animate them to high and generous exploits ; so as *Hous* finding no Body stir in the City, as he expected, could do nothing ; besides their came new succours to the *Tartarian Army*, which when *Hous* understood

stood by his spys, he presently retired. But yet this flight did not serve his turn, nor could he wholly escape the *Tartars* hands, for the Horsemen pursuing them fell upon the rear, and killed many, carrying away great store of Riches, which the Commander distributed in such proportion, as he gave most to such as were wounded; what became of *Hou*s after this action, is unknown, and therefore I conclude that these Northern revolts produced no other effect, but the spoyl, Rapin and Plunder of all those Quarters, as it had produced the like in the Southern parts. The *Tartars* having happily overcome all difficulties hitherto, fell into another by their own Insolency; from the yeare MDCXLIX. the Emperour of the *Tartars*, being now grown

The *Tartars* insolencies produced great dangers.

up

up to mans Estate , desired to Marry the Daughter of the King of *Tayngu*, who is Prince of the Western *Tartars*, hoping by this match, to conserve the friendship of him, whose Forces he feared ; for this end he sent his Uncle to him, who was King of *Pauang*. This Prince passed by the impregnable City of *Taitung*; which as it is the last City towards the North , so also it is the Key and Bulwork of the Province of *Xansi* against the irruption of the Western *Tartars*; for it commands all the Souldiers which keep the many Fortifications of those Quarters, where a fair Level down extending it self beyond that famous Wall, I mentioned heretofore, gives a fit occasion for the incursion of the *Tartars*. The Women of this City are held

held the most beautiful of all *China*; and therefore it happened, that some of the Embassadors followers did ravish some of them, and also carried away by a Rape, a Person of quality, as she was carried home to her Spouse, which was a thing never heard of heretofore amongst the *Chinese*. The people had recourse for these Injuries to *Kiangus*, who governed those Quarters for the *Tartars*; who hearing of this gross abuse, sent to that petty Prince *Pauang*, to demand the new Married Lady to be restored, and to desire him to prevent future disorders in that nature; but he gave a very slight Ear to such complants, and therefore *Kiangus* himself went unto him, who was not only slighted, but even cast out of the Palace. His anger was quickly

Kiangus
 riseth a-
 gainst the
Tartars.

ly turned into rage ; which made him resolve to revenge that injury by the *Tartars* blood ; he therefore Musters up his Souldiers, and presently falls on the *Tartars*, kills all he could encounter ; the Embassadour himself being let down by the Walls of the Town hardly escaped by swift Horses. Then *Kiangus* displayed a Banner, wherein he declared himself a Subject to the Empire of *China* , but named no Emperour in particular, because perchance he had heard nothing of the Emperour *Jungley*, by reason of so vast a distance. But, however; he invited all the *Chineses* to the defence of their Country, and to expell the *Tartars* ; and many Captains as well as Souldiers, came into him ; yea even the very Western *Tartars* against whom

Kiangus
 gathers
 great Forces.

whom he had ever Born Arms, being promised great rewards, sent him the Forces which he demanded. This accident extremely troubled the Court; for they knew well that the Western *Tartars* did both aspire to the Empire of *China*, and also were envious at their prosperous course of fortune; they also knew that they were more abundant in Men and Horses than they were; for from hence it is they bought all their best Horses, and they feared that now they should have no more; and therefore they resolved to send presently a good strong Army against him, before he should gather a greater strength. But *Kiangus* who was as valiant as crafty, and one who by long experience knew how to deal with the *Tartars*, first feigned

feigned to fly with his Army ;
 But in the rear he placed very
 many Carts and Wagons, which
 were all covered very carefully
 as if they had carried the richest
 Treasures they possessed, but in
 real truth they carried nothing
 but many great, and lesser pie-
 ces of Artillery, with their
 mouths turned upon the Enemy :
 all which the *Tartars* perceiving
 presently pursue, they fight with-
 out any order, and fall upon the
 prey with great Avidity; but those
 that accompanied the Wagons,
 firing the Artillery, took off the
 greatest part of the Army, and
 withall *Kiangus* wheeling about
 came up upon them, and made
 a strange carnage amongst them;
 and after this he shewed himself
 no less admirable in Stratagems
 than in fortitude and courage,
 when he fought a set pitched
 Field

Kiangus
 over-
 throws the
Tartars by
 a strat-
 agem.

He beats
 the *Tartars*
 again.

field with a new recruited Army of the *Tartars*, in which he obtained so noble, and renowned a victory, that he filled all the Court at *Peking* with fear and trembling; for by this means victorious *Kiangus* had gathered so vast an Army, as he counted no less then a hundred and forty thousand Horse, and four hundred thousand foot, all men having recourse to him, to defend their Country against the *Tartarian* Army; And therefore *Amavangus*, Tutor to the Emperour, thinking it not fit to commit this business to any but to himself, resolved himself to go against *Kiangus*, and try the last turn of fortune for the *Tartars*; he therefore drew out all the eight Colours, that is, the whole Forces that were then in *Peking*; for under these eight

*Amavan-
gus him-
self goes a-
gainst Ki-
angus.*

N colours

colours are comprehended all the Forces of the Kingdom of *China*, whether they be Natives or *Tartars*; the first of which is White, called the Imperial Banner; the second is Red, the third is Black, the fourth is Yellow; and these three last are governed and Commanded by the Uncle of the Emperour, but the first is immediatly subje& to the Emperour; of these four colours by several mixtures, they frame four more, so as every Souldier knows his own colours, and to what part of the City to repair, where they have ever their Arms and Horses ready for any expedition; so as in one half hour they all are ready; for they blow a Horn just in the fashion of that, which we appropriate usually to our Tritons, and by the manner of winding it,

The *Tartars* Banners.

it, they presently know, what Companies and Captains must march, so as they are ready in a moment to follow their Ensign, which a Horse-man carries tyed behind him, though commonly none but the Commander and Ensign knows whether they go: this profound secrecy in their exercise of War, has often astonished the *Chineses*; for many times, when they thought to oppose them in one part, they presently heard they were in another Quarter; and it is no wonder they are so quick, for they never carry with them any Baggage, nor do they take care for Provision; for they fill themselves with what they find, yet commonly they eat Flesh, though half roasted, or half boiled; if they find none then they devour their Horses, or Camels;

The Tar-
tars de-
light in
hunting.

but ever when they have leasure, they go a hunting all manner of wild Beasts, either by some excellent Dogs and Vultures, which they bring up for that end, or else by incompassing a whole Mountain, or large Field, they beat up all the wild Beasts into a Circle, and drive them into so narrow a Compass, as that they can take as many as they please, and dismiss the rest. The earth covered with their Horse-cloath is their Bed; for they care not for Houses, and Chambers; but if they be forced to dwell in Houses, their Horses must lodge with them, and they must have many holes beaten in the Walls; but yet their Tents are most beautiful, which they fix and remove with such Art and dexterity, as they never retard the speedy march of an Army. Thus
the

the *Tartars* train their Souldiers to hardness for War.

Out of all these Ensigns *Amavangus* chose the choicest men to accompany his person. And besides, he took part of those which he had deputed to follow the three *Royalets* which he dispatched to the South, ordering them to take as many out of the several Garrisons through which they passed, as might supply this defect. But yet although *Amavangus* had so gallant, and such a flourishing Army, yet he never durst give Battail to *Kiangus*, lest he might seem to expose the whole Empire of the *Tartars* to the fortune of one Battail; So that although *Kiangus* did frequently offer him Battail; yet he ever refused to fight, expecting still to hear what reply the Western

Amavangus durst not fight with *Kiangus*.

Tartars would make to his Proposition of his Nephews Marriage ; for he had sent a Legate to that *Tartarian* King with pretious gifts, as well to demand his Daughter for the Emperour of *China*, as to desire him to afford no succour to the Rebel *Kiangus*. The pretious gifts of Gold, of Silk, of Silver, and of Women, obtained whatsoever he demanded ; and therefore *Kiangus* seeing himself deserted of the *Tartars*, that he might provide as well as he could for his own affairs, he returned to the City *Taitung*, of which he soon repented himself, when it was too late ; for *Amarangus* calling in an innnumerable number of Pezants, in the space of three days, with an incredible diligence, cast up a Trench of ten Leagues compass, which he so fortified

tified with Bulworks and Ramparts, that in a trice he blocked up that City. Then did *Kiangus* see his errour in granting them leasure to draw their Trench, which he knew would debar him from all manner of Provifion. And therefore being intraged with anger, as he was a man full of metal, and a great Souldier, turning himself to his Souldiers, he said, *If I must dye, I had rather dye by the Sword, than by Famin*; and upon this marched out presently to the Enemies Trench with his whole Army. Here it was that both the parties fought most obstinately, the one to seek his passage, the other to hinder his advance; so as the fortune was various, and the victory doubtful, untill an unlucky Arrow transpeirc'd *Kiangus*, and in him all

Kiangus
s killed.

the hope of *China* perished. His Souldiers seeing him dead, partly run away, and partly submitted to the *Tartars*, who received them with all courtesy and humanity; for they had cause enough of joy, to see they had escaped the danger of losing the Empire, and that they had conquered so formidable a Commander. But yet they Plundered the City *Tailung*, and burned the City of *Pucheu*, where the Church of the Christians also perished. From hence the *Tartars* returned to *Peking*, where I saw them enter overladen with Riches and triumphant haurels; But *Amavangus* pursued his journey to the Western *Tartars*, where he ratified his Nephew *Xunchius* his Marriage, and brought back with him an infinit Company of Horse

Xunchius
the Em-
perour
Marrys.

Horse from the *Tartars* of the Kingdom of *Tanyu*. In the mean time, the three Royalets which went to the Southern Kingdoms, to pacify those unquiet Provinces, passed their journey by the descent of the River *Guel*, and when they passed through that Province, which the Emperour had given the *Tartars* to inhabit, and cultivate, after he had expelled the *Chineses* for their Rebellion; most of these Pezants, being wholly ignorant of tilling and manuring the ground, as having never been used to mannage a Spade or a Plough, but their Swords, these men I say, desired earnestly these Princes, that they might accompany them in these Wars, and in their expeditions; Two of these Princes rejected their Petitions, but the third called

Kengus

Kengus without any consent or order from the Emperour, listed them amongst his own Troups ; upon which they joyfully changed their rustical instruments into weapons for War ; when the Emperour heard of this proceeding, he sent word to *Kengus* to dismiss them, but he pretended various excuses, and did neglect the Emperours orders. He therefore commanded the supreme Governour of all the Southern Quarters, who resides ever at *Nanking*, to take *Kengus* either alive or produce him dead. He presently cast about how to compass the Emperours command with all secrecy, and received the three Royolets with all sorts of divertisements, of Comedies, Banquets, and the like pleasures, as if he had received no distastfull order from the Emperour.

Emperour. And when the day was come that they resolved to prosecute their journey by the great River of *Kiang*, the said Governour contrived his business so, as he met them again in the River, and under pretence of taking his last farewell, he entertained them nobly with a Royal feast, and in as Royal a Junck, which in *China* are so magnificent, as they resemble rather some gilded Palaces than floating Vessels. In this Princely Ship he entertained these Princes in all jollity and mirth, untill their Army had advanced a good way before, and then he declared to *Kengus* the Emperours order; who presently promised all submission, and to return to *Nanking* with him, if he would onely permit him to go to his Ship, which expected him

Kengus
hangs
himself.

him in the River, to order some little affairs of his own; which being granted, he no sooner got into his Ship, but knowing he could not avoid death by another mans hand, he chose rather to be his own executioner, and hanged himself. Yet for all this, the supreme Governour in the Emperours name, granted to this Mans Son the same Dignity and Province which had been conferred upon the Father; and thus the three Royalets joyning again, having passed *Nanking* and *Kiangsi*, came at length into the Province of *Quamgtung*, to carry on the War against the Emperour *Fungley*; and at their first entrance, they took many Cities, which were loath to oppose the strength of their Armies; onely, the City of *Quangchen* resolved to try its fortune and strength. This

This City of *Quangchen* is a most rich and beautiful place, environed with large waters, and is the onely Southern Port within the Land, to which Boats may have access; In this Town was the Son of the Captive *I-quon* whom I mentioned before; besides, there was a strong Garrison to defend it, and amongst others many fugitives from *Macao*, who were content to serve the Emperour *Fungly* for great stipends; and by reason the *Tartars* had neither Ships, nor skill to govern them, and that the Town had both the one and the other, it is no wonder if they endured almost a whole years Siege, having the Sea open for their relief, But they made many assaults, in which they lost many men, and were ever bea-

ren

The City
of *Quang-
chen* is ta-
ken and
Pillaged.

ten back, and vigorously repelled. This courage of theirs, made the *Tartars* fall upon a resolution of beating down the Town Walls, by their great Canon, which took such effect, as in fine they took it the 24. of *November* MDCL. and because it was remarked that they gave to one of the Prefects of the Town, the same Office he had before, it was suspected it was delivered by Treason. The next day after, they began to Plunder the City, and the sackage endured from the 24. of *November* till the 5. of *December*, in which they never spared Man, Woman or Child, but all whosoever were cruelly put to the Sword; nor was their heard any other Speech, But, *Kill, Kill these barbarous Rebels*; yet they spared some artificers to conserve

conserve the necessary Arts, as also some strong and lusty men, such as they saw able to carry away the Pillage of the City; but finally the 6. day of *December* came out an Ediſt, which forbad all further vexation, after they had killed a hundred thousand men, besides all those that perished severall ways during the Siege. After this bloody Tragedy, all the Neighbouring Provinces sent voluntarily their Legats to submit, demanding onely mercy, which they obtained by the many rich presents which were offered. After this the *Royalet* marched with his Army, against the City *Chaoking*, where the Emperour *Fungley* held his Court; but he knowing himself far inferiour in Forces, and unable to resist, fled away with his whole Army
and

The Em-
perour
Fungly
flys.

and Family, leaving the City to the *Tartars* mercy. But whither this Emperour fled, is yet wholly unknown to me, for at this time I took Shipping in *Fokien* to the *Philippines*, and from thence I was commanded to go for *Europe*, by those to whom I consecrate my self, and all my labours. But I make no doubt, but the Emperour retired into the adjoyning Province called *Quangsi*.

Now to give the Reader a little touch how the *Tartars* stand affected to Christianity, it deserves to be reflected on, that in the Metropolitan City of *Quangchen*, which as I now related was utterly destroyed, there was a venerable person, who had the care and superintendency of all the Christians, whose name was *Alvarus Semedo*

medo a Jesuit; this Man they took and tyed hand and foot, for many days, and threatned to kill him every hower, unless he would dehver the Christians Treasures; but the poor Man had no Treasure to produce; so as he suffered much, till at length the King hearing of his case, took pittty of his venerable gray Heirs and comely person, and gave him not onely his life and liberty, but a Bible, and Breviary, which is their Prayer Book, together with a good sum of Mony for an Ahns, and finally a House to build a Church for Christians; and this is less to be wondred at from him, who heretofore was a Souldier under that famous *Sun Ignatius*, whom I mentioned before, where he knew what belonged to Christianity, and also had seen the

O

Jesuits

The Tar-
 tars offer
 a Church
 to Christi-
 ans.

The *Tar-*
tars em-
 brace
 Christi-
 ans.

in the Camp, from whence he fled to the *Tartars*. Nor is it onely this *Tartar* that loves us Christians, but in a manner all the rest do love, honour, and esteem those Fathers, and many have imbraced our Religion, nor do we doubt but many more would follow their example, if we could enter *Tartary*, as now it is projecting, where doubtless many great things might be performed, for the reducing of that Nation to the Faith of Christ; and perchance God has opened away to the *Tartars* to enter *China*, to give Christianity a passage into *Tartary*, which hitherto to us have been unknown and inaccessible.

Corea re-
 volted
 from the
Tartars.

About this time also they made War against the Kingdom of *Corea*; for of late years they became also Tributary to the
Tartars,

Tartars, upon condition that they should still conserve their Hair and habits: but now the *Tartars* would needs constrain them to conform themselves to the *Tartarian* fashion; and therefore all that Kingdom revolted from the *Tartars*; but my departure hindred me from knowing since what has passed.

But all these glorious victories were much Eclipsed, by the *Amavangus* dyeth. sorrowful death of *Amavangus*, which happened in the beginning of the year MDCLI. He was a Man to whom the *Tartars* owe their Empire in *China*, and such an one as whom both *Tartars* and *Chineses* loved and feared, for his prudence, Justice, humanity, and skill in Martial affairs. The death of this Potentate did much trouble the Court; for the Brother to this

O 2

Man

Man called *Quingtus*, would needs pretend to the Government of the Empire, and of the young Emperour *Xunchius*, but both the *Tartars* and the *Chineſes* reſiſted his clame, alleging, that, being of ſixteen year old, he was able to govern the Kingdom himſelf, and in conformity to this opinion, all the Preſidents depoſed the Enſigns of their Offices, reſuſing ever to receive them from any, but from the young inſtalld Emperour *Xunchius*. To which Conſtancy the King *Kuintus*, Uncle to the Emperour, prudently yielded, leſt he ſhould exaſperate the minds of many, and raiſe greater troubles in the Empire than would advance his Family.

But I cannot doubt, but the death of *Amavangus*, muſt needs trouble the *Tartarian* Empire, and

and bring all their affairs into great disturbance ; for they will hardly find a Man so beloved, feared, and expert in all Military Discipline and Government as he in effect shewed himself to be ; but time will teach us, what will become of all, for since his death we have no certainty of any relation ; now let us turn the thread of our discourse as I promised here above , and consider the fortune and success of the other Great Brigand called *Changhienchungus*, to let the Reader understand how the *Tartars* did invade not onely the Mediterranean and Oriental parts , but also the Occidental Quarters of that vast Kingdom.

But before I begin to speak of this monster of nature, I must ingenuously confess, I am both ashamed, and also touched with

*changhien-
chungus a
cruel Ty-
rant.*

a kind of horror, to declare his villanies, both in respect they seem to exceed all belief, and therefore. I may perchance be held to write Fables, as also it is not handsome to make reflections on such Subjects; yet I may sincerely protest, that I have in my hands a long relation of all his Acts, written by two Religious persons, who were then in the Province of *Suchuen* to exercise their Functions, which Country was the Theater of all his Brutalities which I shall relate; and because I judge these two persons to be of an incorrupted Faith, I judge therefore that a mortal Man might arrive to this pitch of wickedness and inhuman Cruelty. I therefore gathered out of that relation, what I here relate, which is nothing else but a vast Mass of
such

such abominable Cruelty, as I doubt not even the most mildest Reader will take the Authour to be no Man but some horrid wild Beast, or rather if no more execrable name occurs, some Devill transvested in our humane Nature.

This monster like a wild Bear entred into divers Provinces, filling all with Rapin, Death, Fire and Sword, with all other imaginable miseries; for he had a mind to destroy all, that so he might have no enemies, or leave any alive that might revolt from him, but onely content himself with his own Souldiers, and often times he spared not these. But the Province of *Suchuen*, where he usurped the Title of a King was the chief Theater of his barbarous Cruelty; for after he had afflicted and vexed

the Provinces of *Huquang* and *Honan*, and part of that of *Nanking* and *Kiangsi*, he entred the Province of *Suchuen* in the year MDCXLIV, and having taken the principal City called *Ching-tu*, in the heat of his fury he killed a King of the *Tamingian* race, which here had established his Court; as he hath done also to seven other Grandees of the same Family. These were the Preludes of the Tragical Acts, whose Scenses I go about briefly to describe, that so *Europe* may see, what a horrid and execrable thing an unbridled and armed cruelty appears to be, when it furiously rageth in the darkness of Infidelity.

He kills
divers
Princes.

This Brigand had certain violent and suddain buttads of furious cruelty, and maxims drawn from the very bowels of vengeance

geance it self; for if he were never so little offended by another, or suspected another to be offended with him, he presently commanded such to be massacred; and having nothing in his mouth but murder and death, he often for one single Mans fault destroy'd all the Family, respecting neither Children, nor Women with Child; nay many times he cut off the whole Street where the offender dwelled, involving in the Slaughter, as well the innocents as nocents. It happened once he sent a Man Post into the Country of *Xensu*, who being glad he was got out of the Tyrants hands, would not return; to revenge this imaginary injury, he destroyed all the Quarter of the City in which he dwelt, and thought he much bridled his fierceness, that he did

For one
offending
he puts all
to death.

not

not wholly extinguish all the City. To this I adde another unhumane Act about his Hangman, whom it seems he loved above the rest, because he was Crueller than the rest; when this Man was dead of his Disease, he caused the Physician who had given him Physick to be killed; and not content with this, he Sacrificed one hundred more of that Profession to the Ghost of his deceased Officer.

He was affable and sweet towards his Souldiers; he played, banquetted, and feasted with them, conversing familiarly with them; and when they had performed any Military Action, with honour and valour, he gave them precious gifts of Silks and moneys; but yet many times he commanded some of them to be cruelly put to death before him;
 especially

especially such as were of the
 Province of *Suchuen* where he
 reigned, whom he intirely ha-
 ted them, because he thought
 they did not rejoyce in his Roy-
 al dignity. Infomuch as he hard-
 ly ever did any publick Action,
 which though it begun like a
 Comedy, yet had not in fine,
 the sad Catastrophie of a Tra-
 gedy; for if walking out he did
 but espie a Souldier ill clad,
 or whose manner of Gate or
 walking was not so vigorous or
 Masculine as he desired, he pre-
 sently commanded him to be
 killed. He once gave a Souldier
 a piece of Silk, who complained
 to his fellows of the pooreness
 of the piece, and being over-
 heard by a spye, (of which he
 had a great number) who pre-
 sently acquainted him with what
 was said, he presently comman-
 ded

His ha-
 tred to the
 people of
Suchuen.

He cuts
off a Le-
gion for
one Mans
fault.

He kills
many City
Officers.

And he
killed also
the Eu-
nuchs.

ded him, and this whole Legion which were of two thousand Men, to be all Massacred.

He had in his Royal City some six hundred Prefects, or Judges, and men belonging to the Law, and such as managed the principal Offices ; and in three years space there was hardly twenty left, having put all the rest to several deaths for very slight causes ; He caused a Sergeant Major which the *Chineses* call *Pingpu*, to be flead alive, for having granted leave to a *China* Philosopher, without special order, to retire a little to his Country House . And whereas he had five hundred Eunuchs taken from the Princes of the *Tamingean* Family, after he had put their Lords to death ; he commanded all these to be cruelly put to death ; onely because
one

one of them had presumed to stile him, not by the Title of a King, but by the bare name of the Theef *Changhienchungus*, as if he then were no Theef.

Nor did he spare the Heathenish Priests, who sacrificed to their Idols. These sort of men, before he came into this Country, having feigned many crimes against the Priests, which Preached the Faith of Christ, had raised a bitter persecution against them; which God of his goodness did turn so much to their good, as they had permission to teach and Preach publickly the Law of Christ. But after this Tyrant came into the Country, the chief of the Heathenish Priests was apprehended for some words let fall against him, and in the presence of the Fathers, who by accident were then

then at audience with the Tyrant, he was beheaded; And although they had learned of Christ to do good for evill, yet knowing the phrenetical anger and fury of this monster, who used to punish those that interceded, with the punishment of the offender, they durst not make any motion for the least favour. It is true, this cruel Beast loved these Fathers, and would often converse with them, whom he experienced wise and learned, and he would often call them to the Palace to entertain him in discourse; but they knowing well his precipitous anger, went ever prepared, and expecting death, and indeed they were thrice deputed to death, and the fourth time escaped by Gods particular providence, as we shall relate in time and place.

But

But he was not contented with the death of one of these same Heathenish Priests, but having got together about twenty thousand of the same profession, he sent them all to Hell, to visit their Masters whom they had served. And then he would applaud himself as if he had done a very Heroical Action, saying to them, *These Men would have taken away your lives; but Thienchen*, so they call God, which signifies the Lord of Heaven, *has sent me to revenge your cause, and inflict due punishment upon these wretches.* He would often confer also with the Fathers of Christian Religion, and that so properly as a man would take him for a Christian. He praised, and highly extolled the Religion of Christians, which he well understood, partly by the
 For one Mans fault
 he kills
 twenty
 thousand.

conferences which he frequently had with the Fathers, and partly by reading their Books, which for the Instruction of Christians they had writ in the *China* Language; and hath often promised to build a Church to the God of Christians, worthy of his magnificence, when he once came to be Emperour of *China*; and indeed all the works he erected were very splendid and magnificent; but he polluted them all with the blood of the Workmen; for if he found they had but committed the least error, or the least imperfection, he presently put them to death upon the place.

He endeavours to take *Hanchung*.

On the North part of the Country of *Suchuen*, where it confines with the Province of *Xensi*, lyes the strong City called *Narchung*, which though it be seated in the Country

County of *Xenfi*, yet in respect, it is both so strong and of so great an extent, it is held to be the Key of both the two Provinces. The Tyrant endeavoured by all industry to make himself Master of this important place, as being a convenient passage to the rest ; wherefore in the year MDCXLV. he levied a vast Army, consisting of one hundred and fourscore thousand men, all Natives of the County of *Suchuen*, besides those of his own, which had alwaies followed him. This numerous Army besieged the Town a long time, but found so rigorous resistance, that they began to be weary, and about fourty thousand of those Souldiers of *Suchuen* revolted to the Prefects which governed the beleagured City ; by which means the Ar-

P my

He kills
 40000
 men most
 cruelly.

my was constrained to return to the Tyrant, without any memorable Action : and he being enraged with anger to see them return, commanded all the rest of the Souldiers of the Province of *Suchuen*, which were in number one hundred and forty thousand, to be all massacred by the rest of the Army. This horrible Butchery lasted four days ; in which slaughter he commanded many of them to have their skins pulled of, which he filling with straw, and sowing on the head, commanded to be carried publickly and visibly into the Towns where they were Born, so to strike more terrour into the hearts of the inhabitants ; and after all this, yet he had such a malicious hatred against this Country, that they did not rejoyce that he was King, as he never

never ceased to vex and torment it, even when it was in a manner left desolate. Many unexpert persons, without head or guide, did take Arms against him, but he quickly dispersed them, being wholly unexperienced in Military Discipline; others that were wiser, leaving the City, retired into the Mountains, which were in a manner the onely Men who escaped his fury.

After this he called all the Students of the Country to be examined for their degrees, promising to give those honours, to whomsoever should deserve them best; and the *Chineses* are so bewitched with the desire of these dignities, that they did not conceive the perfidious Stratagem of the Tyrant. Their appeared therefore in the publick

He kills all
the Students.

Hall deputed for that Ceremony about eighteen thousand persons; all which he commanded his Souldiers to massacre most barbarously, saying, These were the people who by their cavilling sophisms, solicited the people to rebellions.

He kills
the Chil-
dren and
exposes
the Ma-
trons.

I have a horror to relate so many unhumane slaughters, and yet I see my self over-whelmed with new ones; for what an addition is it to all his related barbarities, to tell you, that he never spared Children, Boys, nor Girls, no nor Matrons with Child and ready to lye down? what an excess of all inhumanity to take the Prefects Wives, when their Husbands were condemned, but yet alive, and to expose these Women to all kind of villanies, and then to kill them? This was so sensible to
many,

many, as they rather chose to kill themselves, than to undergoe so infamous and publick an opprobry by their honesty. I forbear to relate more of such detestable and execrable examples, lest I offend the ears and minds of the Reader by such abominations.

Let us therefore suppress these impurities, and pass to what happened in the year MDCXLVI. when the *Tartars* entred into the Province of *Xensî* to give him Battail, so as he was forced to go out to meet them. And, to the end he might leave the Country behind him with more security, he resolved to cut off all the inhabitants, except those which inhabited the North East Quarters by which he was to pass, and therefore must needs reserve these Creatures to assist

and furnish his Army with all necessaries ; and therefore he deferred their death to another time. He therefore commanded all the Citizens of what quality or condition soever they were, that did inhabit his Metropolitan City of *Chingtu* to be bound hand and foot, which was done by a part of the Army, which he had called in ; and then riding about them, which vast multitude is related to have been above six hundred thousand Souls, he viewed them all with less compassion than the cruelst Tyger would have done ; whilst in the mean time ; these poor victims with lamentable crys, which penetrated the very vault of Heaven, and might have moved a heart composed of stone or Rock, holding up their hands begged of this outrageous Tyrant

He kills
600000.
in the Ci-
ty *Chingtu*.

rant to spare the lives of his innocent people. He stood a while Pensive, like an astonished and amazed Creature, so as it seemed to be an imperfect *Crisis*, wherein humane nature struggled a little with those bowels, and that heart which was composed of ali cruelty; but presently returning to his beastly nature, *Kill, Kill*, saith he, *and cut off all these Rebels*, upon which words, they were all massacred in one day out of the City Walls, in the presence of this bloody monster. Those Religious persons which are there, the Fathers of Christianity, resolved to make their addresses for the Tyrant to save their innocent servants lives; and though all men judged it a desperate attempt, yet they obtained the lives of those they claimed. So as they distributed

Many
Children
Baptized.

themselves at the City Gates ,
and as their Clients passed bound
to the Shambles, they mercifully
unbound their Shakes, and res-
cued them from death. By which
occasion also they performed
another acceptable Sacrifice to
God , in Baptizing an infinit
number of Children, which the
Souldiers willingly permitted ,
so as the horrid and execrable
cruelty of this Tyrant proved
as advantagious to these little
Angels, as *Herods* slaughter did
to the Blessed Innocents.

They write, that in this mas-
sacre there was so much blood
spilt, as made the great River of
Kiang, which runs by the City,
to increase and swell visibly;
and the dead Corps being cast
into the River , and carried
downwards to the other Cities,
did denounce unto them , that
they

they were to expect no better Treaty from this Tyrants hands. And it quickly proved true, for he dispatched his Army to the rest of the Cities, and killed all that he could lay hands on ; and thus this Tyrant did bring that populous Province of *Suchuen* into a vast wilderness. After this, he mustered all his Souldiers into a Field , which in *China* is ever deputed for that end, and is called by the Natives *Kioo-chang*, in this place, he delivered himself thus unto them, *I hope by your valour to obtain the Empire of the world, when I have expelled the Tartars ; but I desire to see you yet quicker and nimbler than hitherto you have been ; you all know, to free you from all burdens and heavy luggage, how I sunk threescore Ships full of Silver in the River of Kiang ;*
which

*which I can easily recover, to re-
 ward your pains and merits, when
 I shall once have obtained the Em-
 pire; he had indeed sunk the
 Ships, and killed the Ship men,
 to conceal the place; but there
 remains yet a greater encum-
 brance, which retards much our
 journey, and all our enterprises,
 which is your Wives, which are
 a heavy burden to you all; There-
 fore put on a generous resolution,
 There will not be wanting other
 exquisit Women, when we are
 come to possess the Empire; and
 although as Emperour I ought
 to have some Prerogative, and
 make a difference betwixt you and
 my Royal person, yet I am content
 in this, to give you all a leading
 example, which may serve as a
 President. After this Speach, of
 three hundred handsome and
 beautiful Maids, which he kept
 for*

He kills all
 the Soul-
 diers
 Wives.

for his voluptuous pleasures, he onely reserved twenty to serve his three Queens, and commanded all the rest to be killed upon the place. The Souldiers presently followed the example and command of their cruell Tyrant, and cut off the heads of innumerable innocent Women, as if they had been their mortal enemies.

Having now no more men in the Province of *Suchuen* to put to death, he turned his fury and hatred against Cities, Houses and Palaces: for whereas he had built himself a very stately and magnificent Palace in the City of *Chingtu*, he consumed that, and with it, a great part of that noble City with fire; besides he cut down all Trees and Woods, that they might profit no man. And thus (as he said) having

He burned his Palace in the City of Chingtu.

having purged his Army, he marched on into the Province of *Xensî* to meet the *Tartars*; but as he marched, if he found any man remaining alive, he commanded him to be killed. And not content with all this, if he espied any Souldier which marched either too far before, or too far behind, though the fault were never so little, he killed him presently. He killed all his sick or weak Souldiers, that they might be delivered (as he said) out of so miserable and ruined a Country. I suppress many more passages of his cruelty, because I will hasten to the Catastrophe of this Tragedy.

He was no sooner entred into the Province of *Xensî*, but one of the Emperours Uncles meets him with five thousand *Tartars*, and the Body of the Army marched

ched after him ; five Horsemen run before the Army as usually they do amongst the *Tartars* ; who if they be well received of the enemy, they retire, and take it as a sign of Peace and submission ; but if they receive any Act of hostility, then they march up to fight. These Horsemen were espied by the Tyrants Scouts, who presently brought him tydings of their approach. But he laughed at the news, and jestingly asked them, If the *Tartars* had learned to fly. He had at that time many persons tyed before him, which he intended to massacre, and amongst the rest two of the Jesuits, for asking leave to return into *Suchuen*, which was the Country they had undertaken to convert to Christianity. But the suddain death of this Archbrigand delivered them all,

all, from the imminent danger ; for at the same time came in his chief Commanders, assuring him the *Tartar* was upon him ; upon which news, he being of a bold and courageous humour , burst out of his Tent, and without either head-piece or breast-Plate , snatched up a Lance, went out with a few, to view the enemy. The *Tartars* presently assaulted the Tyrant ; and the first discharged Arrow , which was as happy to the *Tartars*, as it was to many others, pierced the heart of that monster of Cruelty, killing that Man, who had an intention to make an end of all Men ; and who from the base condition of a raskally Thief, presumed to take the Sacred Title of King and Emperour. The head being down, the *Tartars* easily seized on the body of his Army ;

The Ty-
rant is
slain.

Army; b t many of the Soul
 diers submitted to them, others
 were killed, others run away;
 and the poor inhabitants of the
 Province of *Suchuen* received The Pro-
 vince of
Suchuen
 is made
 subject to
 the Tar-
 tars. the *Tartars* as their Saviours.
 By which means this Province,
 which is the most Western in
China, and borders upon the
 Kingdom of *Tibet*, became sub-
 ject to the *Tartarian* Empire.

When they had established
 Garrisons, and all their other
 affairs in that Country, they
 prepared to return to the Royal
 City of *Peking*; leading with
 them the two Captive Priests,
 which they had found in Chains,
 as a present most acceptable to
 the *Tartarian* Emperour, there
 I saw then, and left them in
 great veneration and honour in
 the year MDCL.

But this victorious Conque-
 rour

One of
the Em-
perours
Uncles is
ill recei-
ved.

roure returning crowned with Laurels, was ill received and worse recompensed; by his Brother the great *Amavangus*, who was the Emperours Tutor; and instead of a deserved triumph, he received an unworthy death; for being to make a march of many Months, to undergo much labour, and many troubles, it happened so, as he lost more Men in marching than in fighting; he was accused of great negligence in governing his Army; and being of a generous nature, he thought he deserved high praise, but no blame, and therefore he took his *Tartarian* Cap, and scornfully trampled it upon the ground, which is the greatest sign of indignation, which they can express; upon which fact he was committed to a Prison proper to those of the blood

blood Royal which he accused
 of any Crime ; But he scorned
 to be the first of the *Tartarian*
 Family, which should suffer this
 first opprobry in *China* ; and
 therefore before he was carried
 to this Prison called by the *Chi-
 nese Coaciang*, he hung himself
 miserably in his own Palace. A ^{He hangs}
 Gallant Prince, and worthy of ^{himself.}
 a better fortune. Many think
 this disgrace to have grown
 from *Amavangus* his eldests
 Brothers emulation ; but I think
 that *Amavangus* was affraid
 that this Man wanting neither
 courage, nor wit, would quickly
 ruin the *Tartarian* affairs, by his
 rash proceedings. And here I
 will put a period, rather than
 an end, to this brief Narration
 of the *Tartars* War to the year
 MDCLI. in which year I was
 sent to *Europe*, by those that
 Q may

may command me . In which relation if there be nothing else worthy of admiration, yet it seems admirable to consider, that in seven years space, they conquered more ground in Longitude and Latitude, then an Army could have walked in that space of time; for they over-run twelve vast Provinces of *China*; besides the immense extents of *Leaotung*, and the Kingdom of *Corea*.

What since has past in such vicissitude of fortune, I know not; but as soon as God shall bless me with a prosperous return into my beloved *China*; or that my friends acquaint me with any new Occurrences by Letters, I will procure all *Europe* shall understand the Issue of these prodigious revolutions.

F I N I S.



An Addition to the
former History, taken out
of the last Letters from
China, Written in the years
1651. 52. and 53.



After the Printing of
this our History of
the *Tartarian* Wars,
returning to *Brus-
sels* from *Amsterdam*
(where I used all possible expe-
dition to bring my *Atlas Sinicus*
to the Press) I there, received
my long desired Letters from
China, sent by my friends from
Rome; some of which being da-
ted the 14. of *November* 1651.
were writ by a *Sicilian* called
Father *Francis Brancatus*, who
sojourns in the City of *Xanchai*
in the Province of *Nanking*; and

reflecting, that happily it would not be ungrateful to our *Euro-peans*, if I made a private relation of publick use ; I resolved to draw out this little ensuing Narration from those Letters written in severall years.

See fol.
165.

The Empire of *China* is now grown to a more fixed and settled Estate , since the death of *Amavangus* Uncle to the Emperour : who as he was the first Man that suggested to the *Tartars* the Emperours invasion, so also, it is to his care and vigilancy they owe the happy success of all, and its conservation.

But yet, the opinion framed of him after his death, was far different from the authority and power he carried in his life ; for no sooner was the power of reigning by his death devolved into the hands of his Nephew called *Xunchi* ; but that this Emperour,

perour, though a youth in years, began his reign by the approbation of all estates and orders, with such maturity of judgement, and Council, as he seemed to surpass the gray and hory heads of his wisest Councillors. He was no sooner inthroned, then he expressed a strange ripeness of judgement and Justice joyned together in the same Action; for having discovered his Uncles wicked Councils and Designs, and traced the obscure track of his abominable vices, which were hid during his life: he did so much resent those detestable Acts, as he commanded his body to be digged up, and his magnificent Sepulcher to be beaten down; which kind of punishment amongst the *Chinese* it held to be the greatest that can be inflicted; being taught by

Amavangus suspected and punished after his death.

The veneration of dead mens tombs; amongst the *Chinese*.

their Religion to carry all veneration and respect to the tombs of dead persons. The Carcass being dragged out, they first beat it with Clubs, then they scourged it with Rods; and finally cutting off the head, they made it a spectacle to all Criminal opposites. Thus the splendour of his Tomb, was brought to dust; and fortune payed him after his death, the turn, she owed him in his life. He punished also all the Officers and Prefects, which were privy to his Councils; putting some to death, and depriving others of their dignities. Amongst all which I find the fortune of General *Fung* to have been very various: who though he be no Christian, yet being a singular friend, protector of my order, and particularly known to my self, I cannot but rejoyce to hear him restored

stored, to his place and dignity after his discovered innocency.

In the mean time the Emperour

Xunchius, growing up to Mans estate, and sollicitous to propagate his August off-spring, resolved to accomplish his long intended Marriage with the

The Emperour of the *Tartars* Marriage and their customs.

Daughter to the Emperour of the Occidental *Tartars*: In which action the *Tartars* imitate the

European custom; for they take

a Lady of some illustrious blood or descent; But the Emperours

of *China* seem little to value the nobility of blood, but select the

primest beauty; nor will they refuse a person of a mean fortune,

if she be but graced with beauty; In so much, as the Wife

to the late Emperour of *China*, was Daughter to a Man, that

got his living by making straw Shoos. So King *Ahasuerus* raised

a poor Captive Maid to be Consort with him in his Royal

Throne : which kind of custom happily the *Chineses*, drew from the *Persians*, or else the *Persians* had it from them. But to return to the subject that caused this little digression. The Emperours VWedding was performed with a Pomp and splendor proportionable to such an Empire : nor was there any magnificence wanting on the Spouses part ; for according to the fashion of the Nation, she came accompanied with whole Armies of Men, and so many Troops of Horse, as they seemed innumerable ; nature seeming to have framed the riches of the *Tartars* more for warlike affairs, than for pleasure. Nor is this infinit multitude of Horse incredible, for I my self have seen eighty thousand Horse, all at one time, sent as a present from the Occidental *Tartars* to the King of *China*. Which

Which boundless power of the *Tartars*, as it cannot be contained within any limits, so also it broke out into the Province of *Quamtung*, which they wholly subdued; and out of that, like an impetuous Torrent, they ran into the Province of *Quangsi*; which they likewise conquered to their Empire. So as the King of *China* called *Fungley*, with his chief favourit the Eunuch, called *Pang Achileus*, who professeth Christianity, were feign to fly to the confines of *Tunking*, being in a manner excluded the whole Empire. In so much as a friend of mine writes out of the Province of *Fokien*, that the King *Fungley* fearing to fall into the *Tartars* hands, was feign to leave the Land, and fly to Sea. But upon what Coast that unmerciful Element may have cast him, we know not for we hear no news of

The *Tartars* subdued the rest of *China*.

of our Father *Andrew Xauerus Koffler* who ever followed the Court of King *Fungley*, having had the happiness to have Baptized his Queen, his Son, and his Mother, with many others of that distracted Court.

In the mean time, whilst one *Cung*, a Royolet amongst the *Tartars*, subdued the Province or *Quangsi*, the Governour of the Country, whom they call *Colaüs*, fell into the Enemies hands, and the *Tartars* hoping by rewards; and promises of dignities, to soften the mind of this so gallant a Man, and so eminent a Philosopher, abstained three days from any cruelty, or ill usage; But he scorned to prefer his life before his allegiance and fidelity to his King; and therefore lost his head.

The great
fidelity of
the Go-
vernour to
his King.

But yet, this generous Action was admired and honoured by those

those brutish Souls, who presently erected a magnificent Tomb, in memory of so honourable an Act; for although the *Tartars* sollicit the *Chinzes* to revolt from their Prince, yet they honour and praise such as shew themselves constant to him; And this memorial, I owe unto his memory, as well for his singular friendship he was pleased to contract with me, as also to his eminent vertues, of which, I my self and the whole Church of Christians in *China*, were both Spectators and Admirers, for the space of twenty years. And that his name may not perist, nor his Country; he was Born in the Province of *Nanquin* in the City *Changcho*; being called *Kiu Thomas*, a name worthy of eternal memory, in the Temple of vertue.

During the saccage of these
Provinces,

See fol.
197.

Provinces ; news arrives from the Country of *Suchuen* , that the notorious Brigand called *Changhienchungus* , famous for his infamous cruelty and abominable villanies, was broke out again, and wasted all that Province with severall tempests of War ; for though he seemed to be quite vanquished in the last Battails, yet he appeared again to trouble and vex the Empire with new Garboyls , and further Designs of War.

The Province of *Fokien* also began to grone under the same miserable condition of VVar ; for the Reverend Father *Peter Canevari* Native of *Genua* , writes out of the City *Changcheu* which was besieged the 30 of *March* 1652. that *Quesingus* having made a descent from his Ships into that Province had overrun the whole Country, taken

ken some Cities and Towns, and carried on the War with great terrour to the Inhabitants. Inso-much as the *Tartarian* Commanders kept themselves, and their Army in their Forts, and other places of strength, not daring to appear in the field to oppose them; but yet he sayd they expected new Forces and Succours from *Peking*; by which they doubt not, but quickly to subdue him.

This *Quesingus*, who now vexeth this Province of *Fokien*, <sup>*Quesingus*
the Pyrar.</sup> is Son to the famous Pyrate *I-quon* or *Chinchilungo* whom the *Tartars* imprisoned by a slight, as I recounted to you in my former History.

And to let you know what I heard from some passengers of *China*, who in the month of *January* 1653. were cast, in a Ship of *China*, upon the Coasts of an Island

Island called *new Holland*; whither I had been brought before by their Barks, and Souldiers as their Prisoner; These Men related that a great Army of *Tartars* was arrived, to subdue *Quesingus*; whose Commander thought it fit to joyn art to his great Force, and therefore he commanded a handfull of Men to charge the *Tartarian* Army, and presently by feigning flights to retire to more advantagious and surer places. But in the mean time, he had placed a number of Horfe in a deep valley behind a Mountain, towards which Quarters the fugitive Troops retired. This flight gave courage to the *Tartars*, and the desire of victory, made them venture so far from the River *Chang*, where their Ships lay at Anchor, as they found themselves environed by the *Tartars* Army. This
desperate

desperate condition which excluded the *Chineses*, from returning to their Ships, caused a very sad, and bloody Battail, in which there perished above 8000 ^{*Quesingus*} of the *Chineses* Army; whilst ^{defeated.} *Quesingus* a spectator of this sad accident from the Mast of his Ships, and as they relate, was heard to say, that he would once more try his fortune against the *Tartars*; but if she proved again adverse unto him, he then would submit, and shave his Hair, like a *Tartar*.

Having briefly related the State of the Temporality in this Kingdom, it remains I should touch a little of the State of Christianity, since these great revolutions.

In which subject, I can onely say, that being at *Brusels* this last *June* in the year 1654. I received Letters from *China*, in which
they

they gave me notice that the Father Jesuits, were very favourably treated by the *Tartars*; yea better than before, for they permitted free exercise of the Christian Catholick Religion, through all their Kingdoms, granting them leave not onely to enjoy their antient Churches, but did also liberally contribute to build new ones; So by the goodness of God, that which endamaged others, proved gain to them. But I reserve all particulars to a larger relation in a greater volumn, which shall continue *Trigautius* his History of the missions dispatched into *China*; and considering he concludes that History in the year 1610. it shall be my endeavour to produce the rest of those memorable Actions to these our present times.

F I N I S.

QUEST OF CHINA BY MARTIN W. VICTORINUS

BELLUM TARTARICUM

THE
CONQUEST OF THE
GREAT AND MOST RENOWNED
EMPIRE OF
CHINA

MARTIN
MARTINIUS
(衛 匡 國)

1654
REPRINTED
1939







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